

INFORMAL REPORT

OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA REPORT SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND AREA JULY AND AUGUST 1967

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INFORMAL REPORT

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ABSTRACT

This report presents oceanographic data collected during July and August 1967 aboard the USNS DAVIS (T-AGOR 5) in the San Clemente Island Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicles Test Range and SEA LAB III areas. The Deep-Towed Profiler records show two small valleys in the SEA LAB III area. The bottom's surface was predominately sand at the sites sampled. Nansen cast data show that the water column temperature decreases almost linearly below the thermocline. Although current speeds of 0.5 knots were recorded at the 100 and 260 fathom sites, the predominant current speeds varied from 0.0 to 0.2 knots. The near-bottom current at the 42 fathom site reached 0.7 knots with a mean speed of 0.5 knots. The current direction at the sites sampled reverses along an axis parallel to San Clemente Island. Bottom photographs show that the bottom is alternately smooth and flat, steep, and boulder strewn.

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Developmental Surveys Division
Oceanographic Surveys Department

This Manuscript has been reviewed and is approved for release as an UNCLASSIFIED Informal Report.

BERNARD C. BYRNES

Director

Developmental Surveys Division

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THIPODUCTION

General

During July and August 1967, the Bottom Environmental Survey Project (BESP) of the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO) conducted an oceanographic environmental survey in the vicinity of San Clemente Island (SCI), California. This information is intended to supplement the data obtained during the October to December 1966 survey in the same area (1). The purpose of these studies was to obtain oceanographic information for the support of the Deep Submergence Systems Project (DSSP).

Mr. A. R. Mooney was the NAVOCEANO Project Leader, and was assisted by Messrs. R. Thomas, J. Coleman, L. Freeman, W. Graves, and S. Dory during the July survey and by Messrs. R. Oser, R. Thomas, M. Fagot and L. Freeman during the August survey.

Operations

The survey was conducted aboard USNS CHARLES H. DAVIS (T-AGOR 5) from 5-8 July and 19-23 August. In addition, a Navy Torpedo Recovery Boat (TRB-7) from the Long Beach Naval Station and a Patrol boat from the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Facility, San Clemente Island were used on 18 August to recover current meter arrays. Observations were made in the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) Test Range and in the SEA LAB III area adjacent the northeast side of San Clemente Island (Figure 1). The observations made were as follows:

- 4 Bottom samples
- 5 Nansen casts
- 26 Miles (approximately) of Deep Towed Profiler (DTP) track
- 80 Miles (approximately) of bathymetry track
- 1 Bottom Environmental Sensing System (BESS) launch and retrieve
- 3 Current meter array plants
- 5 Miles (approximately) of towed camera bottom photographs

Data

Original records of all data are retained by NAVOCEANO.

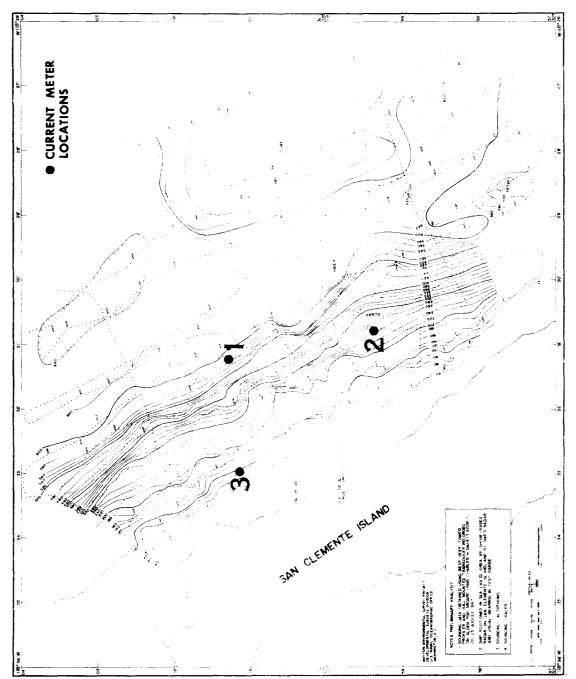


FIGURE I TEST RANGE BATHYMETRY AND CURRENT METER ARRAY SITES

II. BATHYMETRY

General

A deep-towed, high-resolution profiler was used in the SEA LAB III and DSRV Test Range areas during the survey. The objective of this system was to tow the sonic source near the bottom in order to reduce the ground coverage thereby increasing the bathymetric detail of the records. Secondly, high resolution, shallow subbottom profiling could be achieved since the water column attenuation was reduced (2).

Methods and Procedures

Two 12KC EDO Model 465 transducers were mounted back to back in an Ocean Research Equipment's Towed Transducer Vehicle. These transducers were synchronized and keyed by the shipboard Alden 419 Precision Graphic Recorder (PGR) through a 2Hl low center resistance (4.38 chms/1000') conductor cable. Every 1/4 second the transducers were keyed to emit a 12KC signal upward toward the air-sea interface and downward toward the sea-bottom interface. The reflected returns were received at the transducers, amplified, and transmitted to the ship through the conductor tow cable. These signals were displayed on the recorder as fish to surface and fish to bottom distances. In the SEA LAB III area, the fish distance behind the ship was determined using the ship's hull transducers as passive hydrophones to determine the slant range from fish to ship (Figure 2). The horizontal distance was computed from this information. During the SEA IAB III survey, the ship was navigated by Randall Radar on San Clemente Island. In the DSRV Test Range bathymetric survey, the deep towed profiler was towed in the shallow portion and the standard 12KC hull-mounted transducer was used in the remainder of the Range. During this time the ship was navigated by visual bearings but periods of fog rendered some of the fixes questionable.

Analysis and Results

A bottom contour chart of the DSRV Test Range is presented in Figure 1. The steep San Clemente Escarpment, a section of the Santa Catalina Basin, and a flank of the dome are shown. Figure 3 is a contour chart of the SEA LAB III area showing sounding and cross-section lines. The cross-sections are presented in Figure 4. Section A-B shows the rapid slope increase at the 55 fathom line. PGR presentations of SEA LAB grid lines #2, #4, #6, and #10 are shown in Figures 5 to 8. Line #4 shows one of the valleys and lines #6 and #10 show both the valleys present in the area.

U.S. NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE

BOTTOM ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY PROJECT

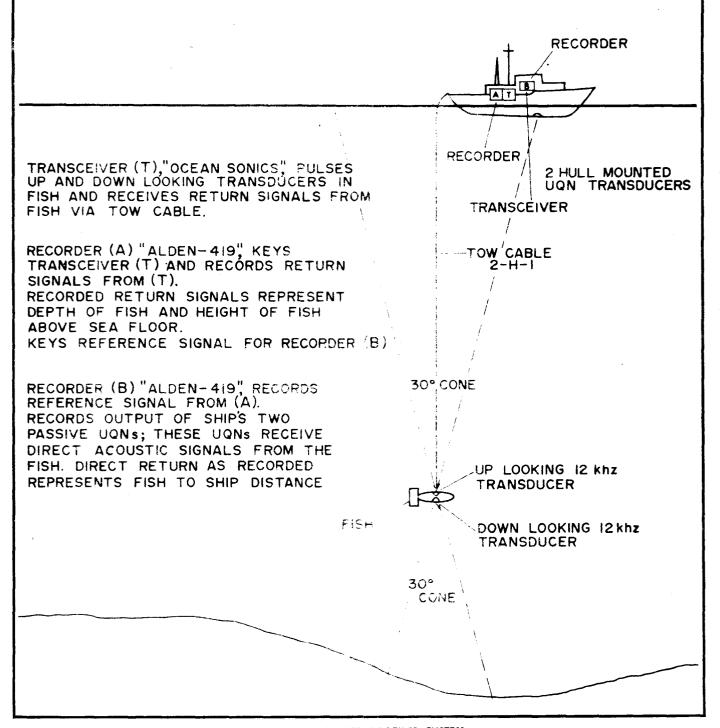
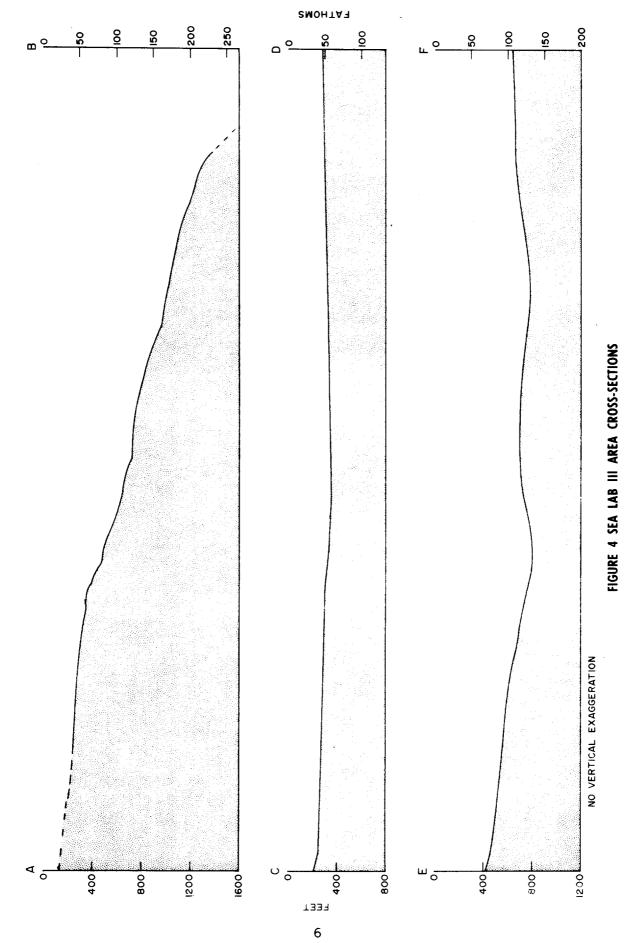
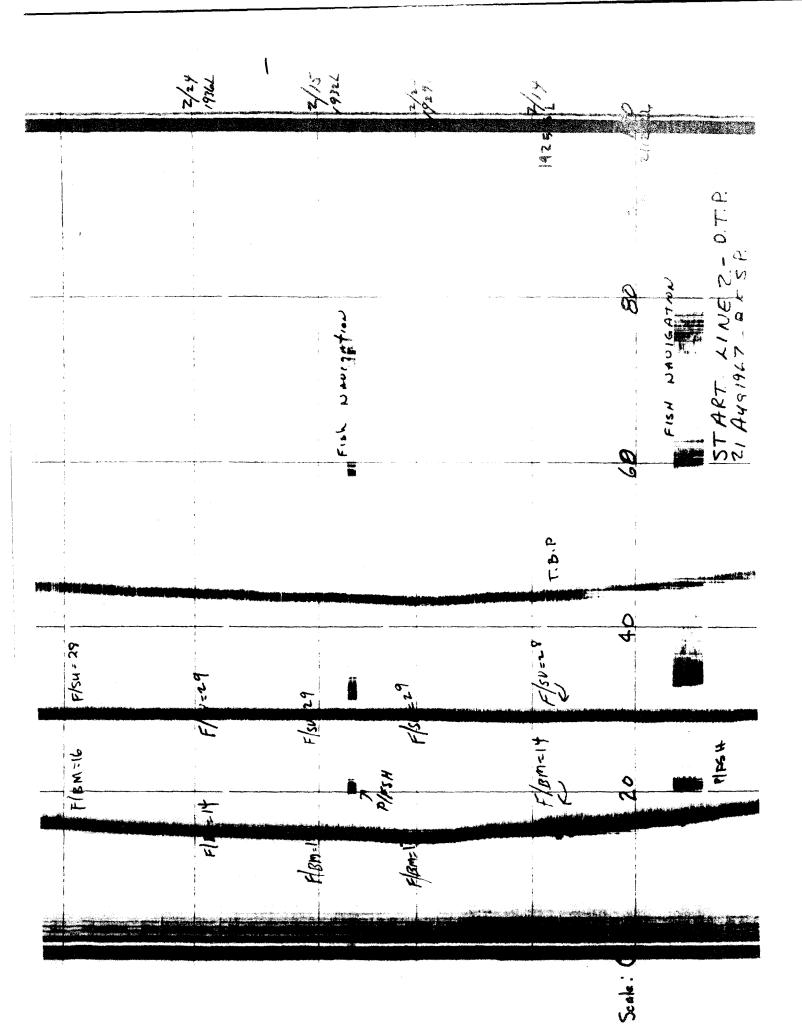
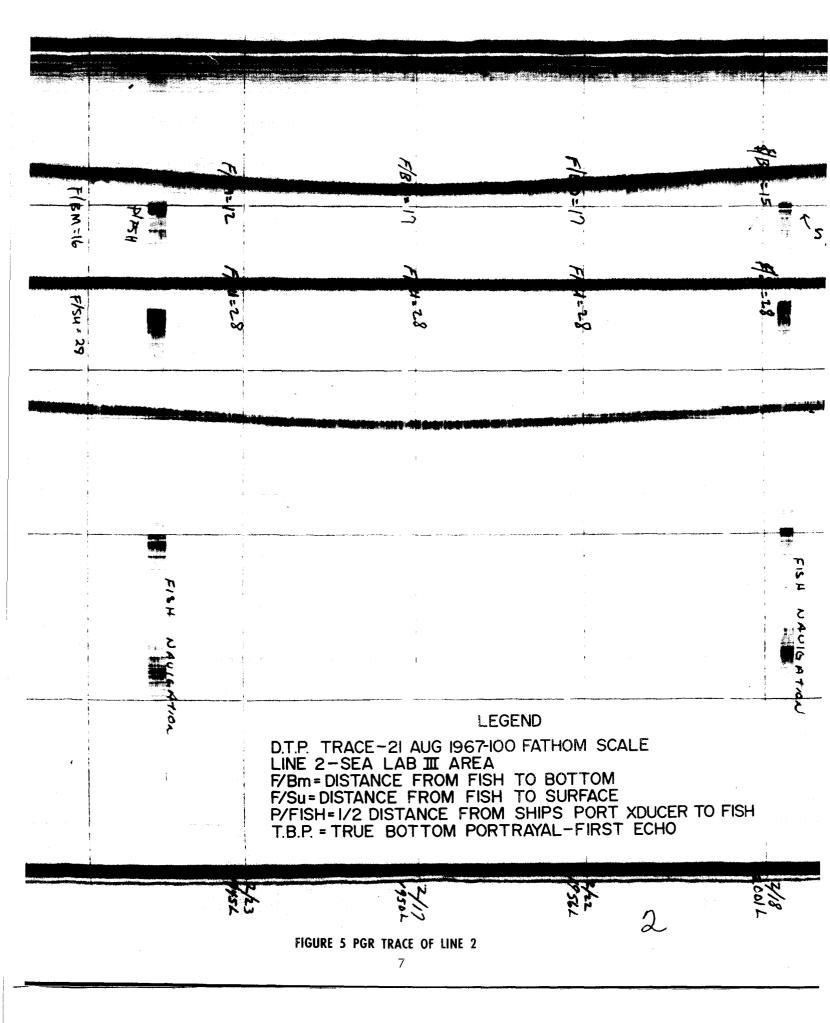


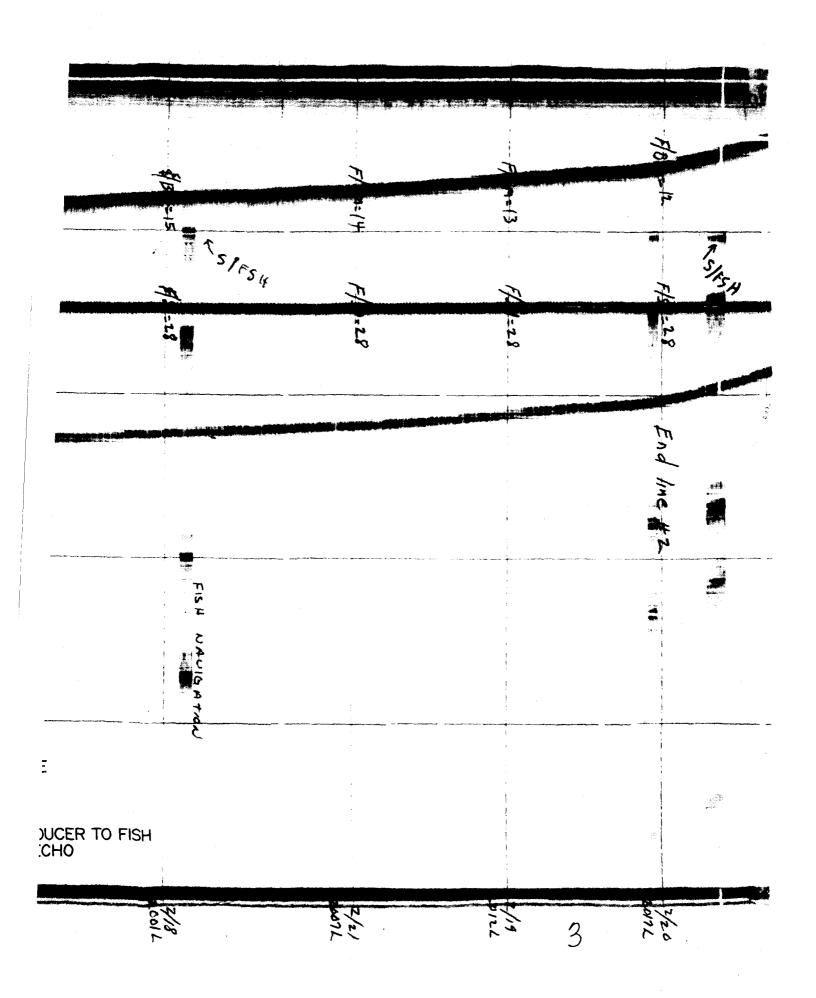
FIGURE 2 DEEP-TOWED PROFILER SYSTEM

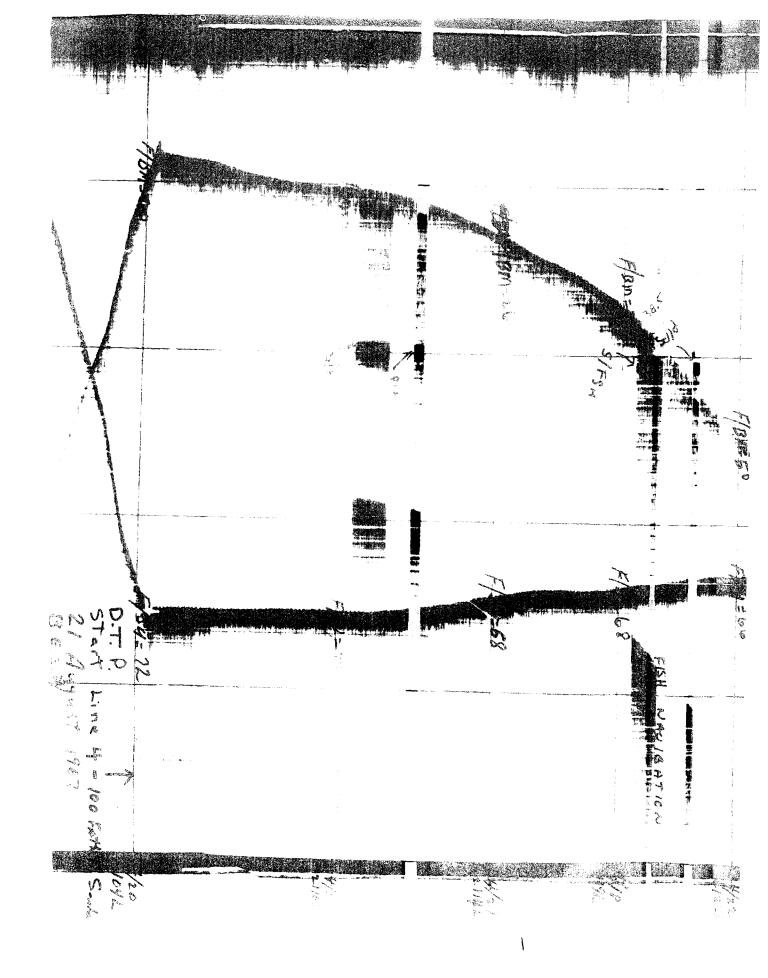
FIGURE 3 SEA LAB III SITE BOTTOM TOPOGRAPHY

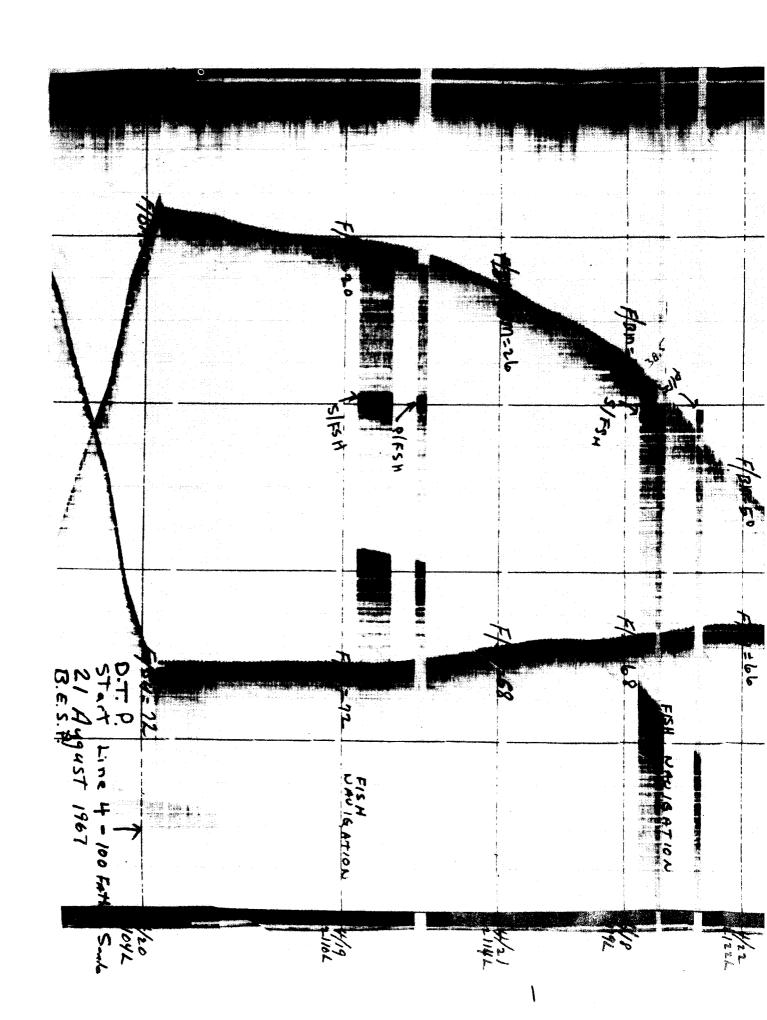


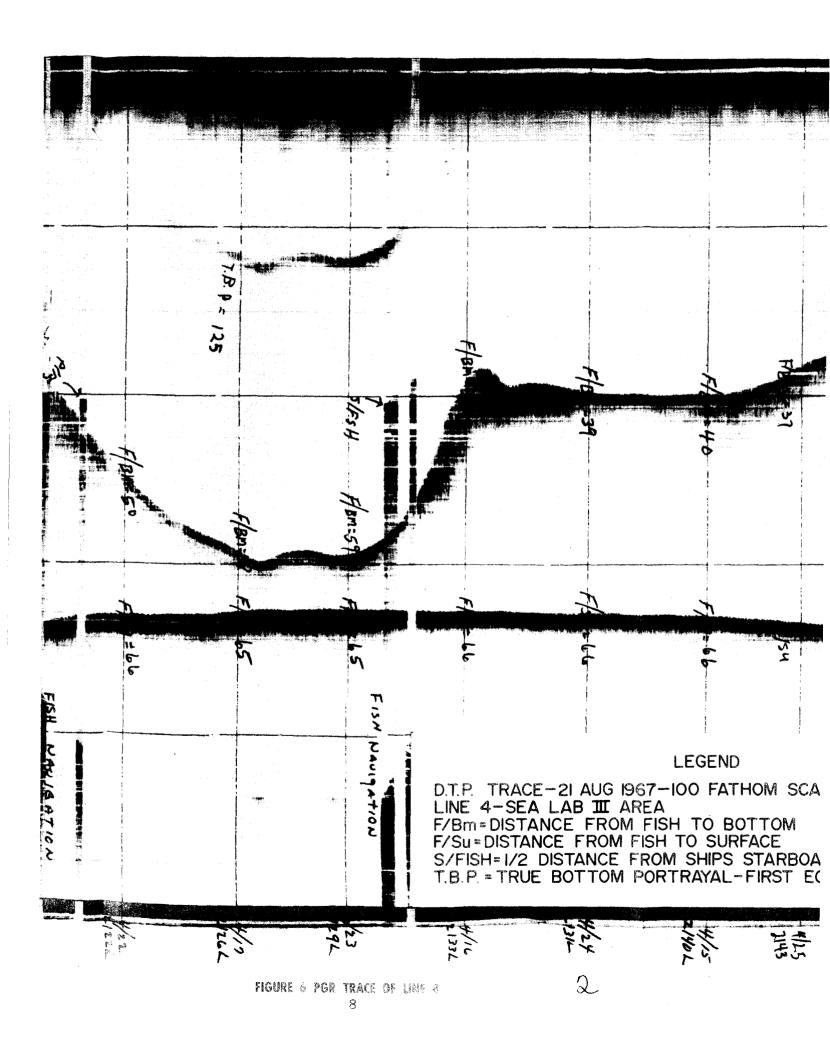


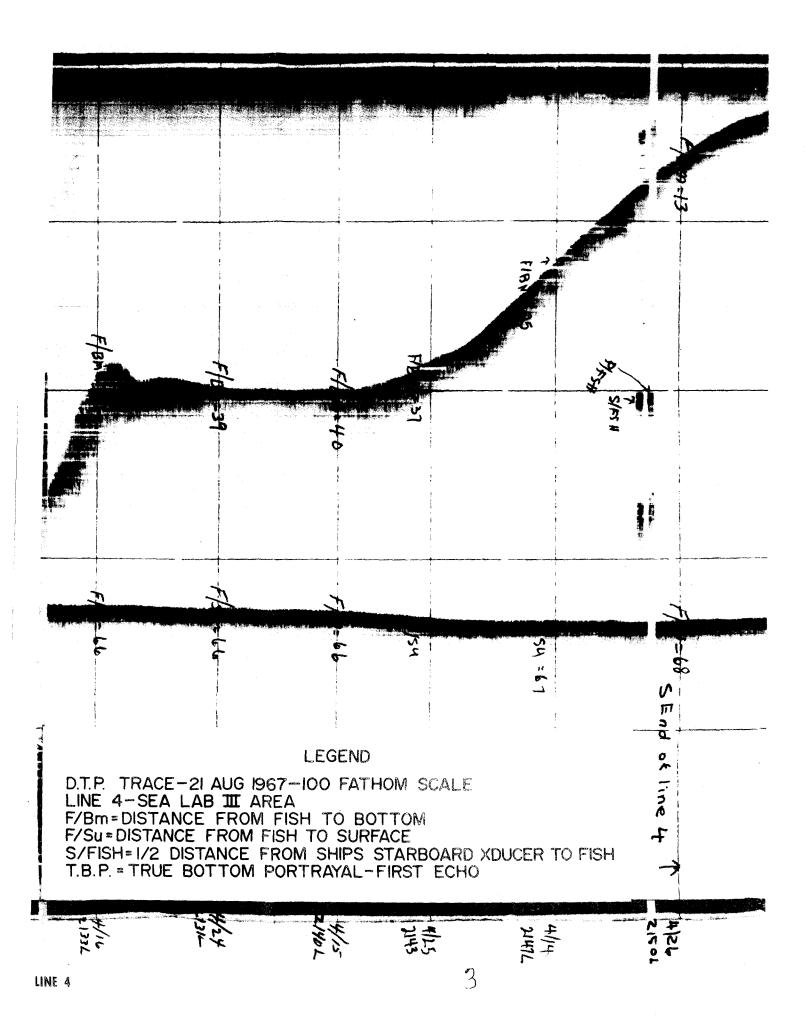


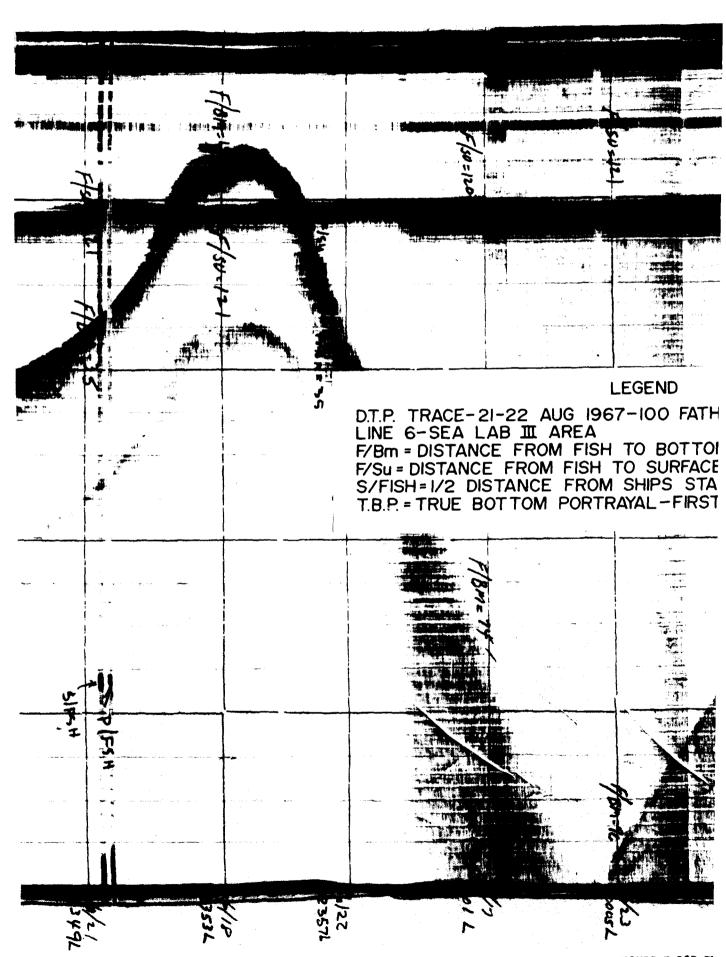


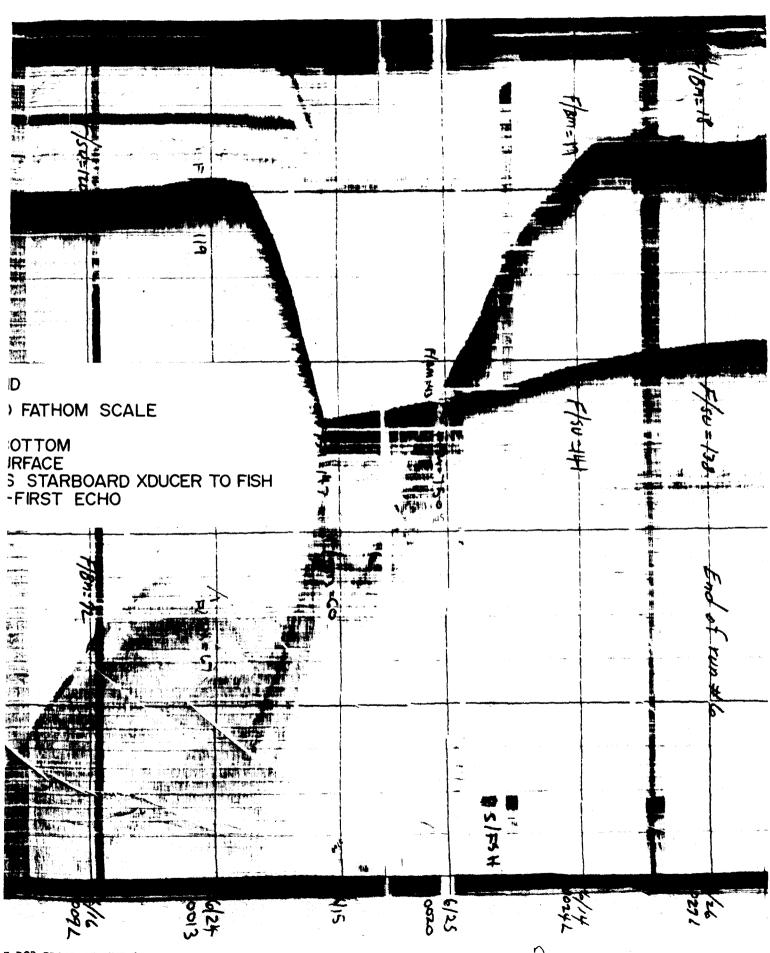


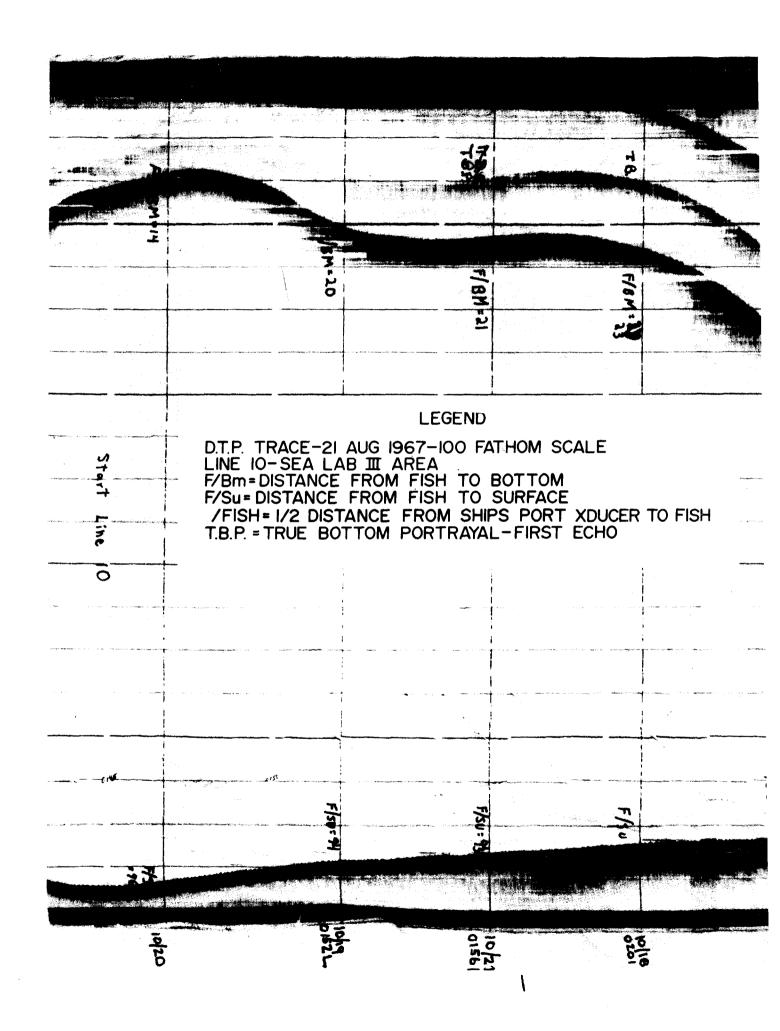


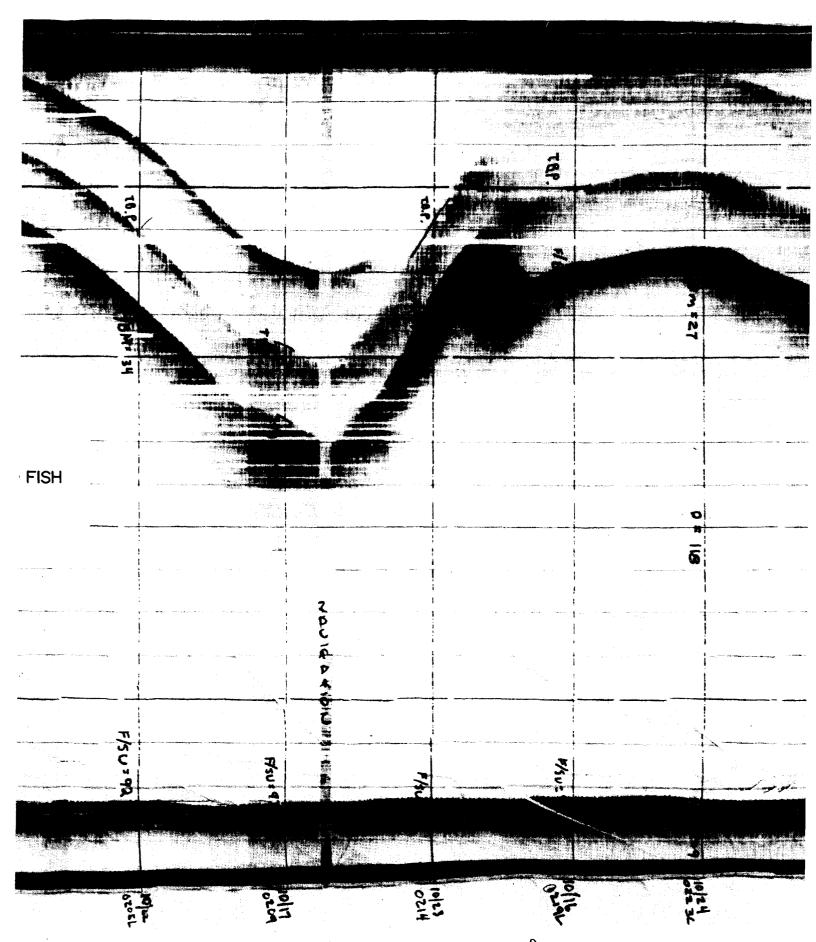


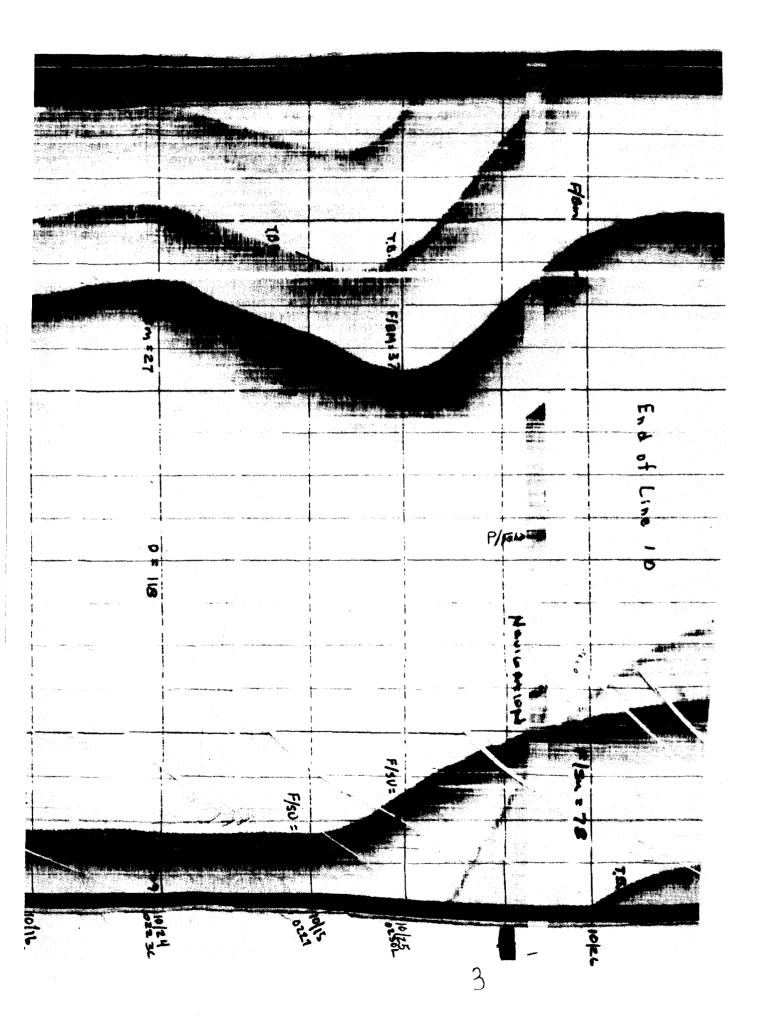












III. BOTTOM SAMPLES

General

Four bottom samples were collected in the SEA LAB III area. The locations of the sampling sites are shown in Figure 3.

Methods and Procedures

Three cores were attempted at location #1 with a Kullenberg corer. One other sample was obtained using a Nansen bottle. The samples were analyzed for size at the NAVOCEANO Pacific Support Group Facility at San Diego, California. The analysis were performed using standard laboratory techniques of sieving and pipetting as outlined by Krumbein and Pettejohn (3).

Analysis and Results

Although three coring attempts were made at location #1, only a surface sample of shelly sand was obtained for each attempt. All four of the samples consisted of medium to coarse, organic and nonorganic, shelly sands with traces of volcanic material. Summary and log sheets are presented in Appendix A.

IV. PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY

General

Nansen casts were made in the SEA LAB III area to determine the physical characteristics of the water column.

Methods and Procedures

Temperature and salinity data were taken by standard Nansen casts at five stations in the SEA LAB III area (Figure 3). Water temperatures and sampling depths were obtained with paired protected and unprotected deep-sea reversing thermometers attached to the Nansen bottles. Temperatures and depths were computed in accordance with H.O. Pub. No. 607, (4). The water samples obtained with the Nansen bottles were analyzed for salinity using an inductive salinometer.

The Nansen cast data were calculated, coded, and forwarded to the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC) for computer calculations of density, sound velocity, specific volume anomalies, and thermometric depths. These data are presented in Appendix B.

Analysis and Results

At station #1, the Nansen bottles were spaced from surface to bottom. At the other four stations, all the bottles were concentrated near the bottom to detect any small deviations from the smooth temperature/depth curve. The maximum temperature measured was 18.46°C at the surface of station #1. The minimum temperature was 6.82°C at 355 meters of station #5. At the bottom of station #5 a small positive temperature gradient was detected.

V. CURRENTS

General

Three current meter arrays were planted at the locations shown in Figure 1. These locations were chosen in order to obtain a representation of the current regime around the perimeter of the SEA LAB III area.

Methods and Procedures

Each of the three arrays consisted of three Geodyne A-101 16mm film recording Current Meters and Geodyne A-393 or Braincon 422 Release Mechanisms. The arrays were planted on 7 July and the releases were programmed to activate on 18 August 1967. A TRB and Patrol Boat from San Clemente Island were used to retrieve #2 and #3 arrays on this date. Array #1 failed to surface. The data on the film was transferred to magnetic tape at NAVOCEANO and the tape was used to prepare speed and direction histograms and a polar coordinate plot of speed versus direction. Zero current speed was not included in the computations. The plots are presented in Figures 9 to 17.

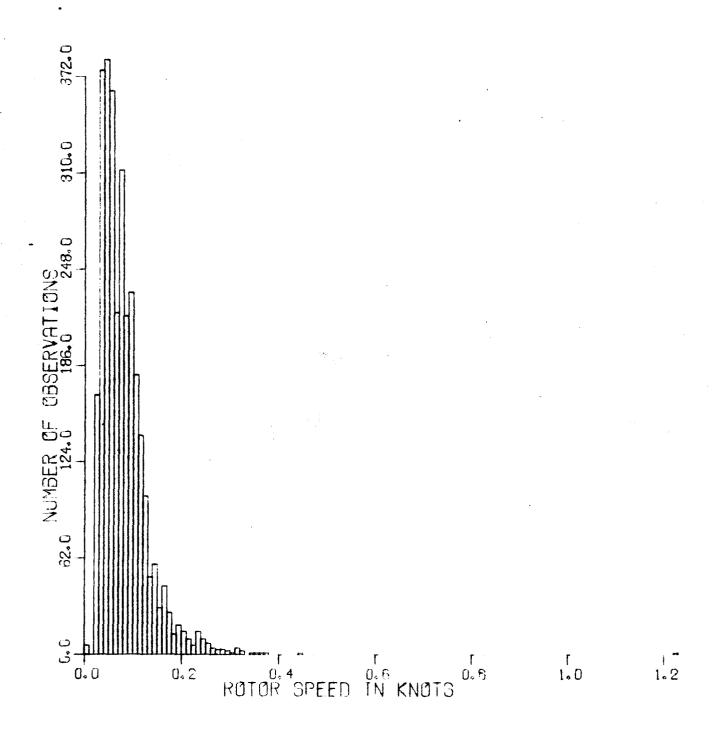
Analysis and Results

Three of the six meters retrieved functioned properly and are referenced in this report. Meter #327 was arrayed 12 feet above the bottom in a water depth of approximately 260 fathoms. Meters #309 and #321 were arrayed 8 feet and 36 feet respectively above the bottom in a water depth of 100 fathoms. The primary direction vectors of all meters are to the southeast and northwest. This indicates that at these locations and depths the current reverses along an axis essentially parallel to San Clemente Island. Although speeds of 0.5 knots were recorded, the predominant current speeds varied from 0.0 to 0.2 knots (0.0 to 10.3 cm./sec.).

CURRENT DIRECTION HISTOGRAM SCALE - 13.429 OBSERVATIONS = _____ /210 165

FIGURE 9 CURRENT DIRECTION HISTOGRAM - METER 327

CURRENT SPEED HISTOGRAM



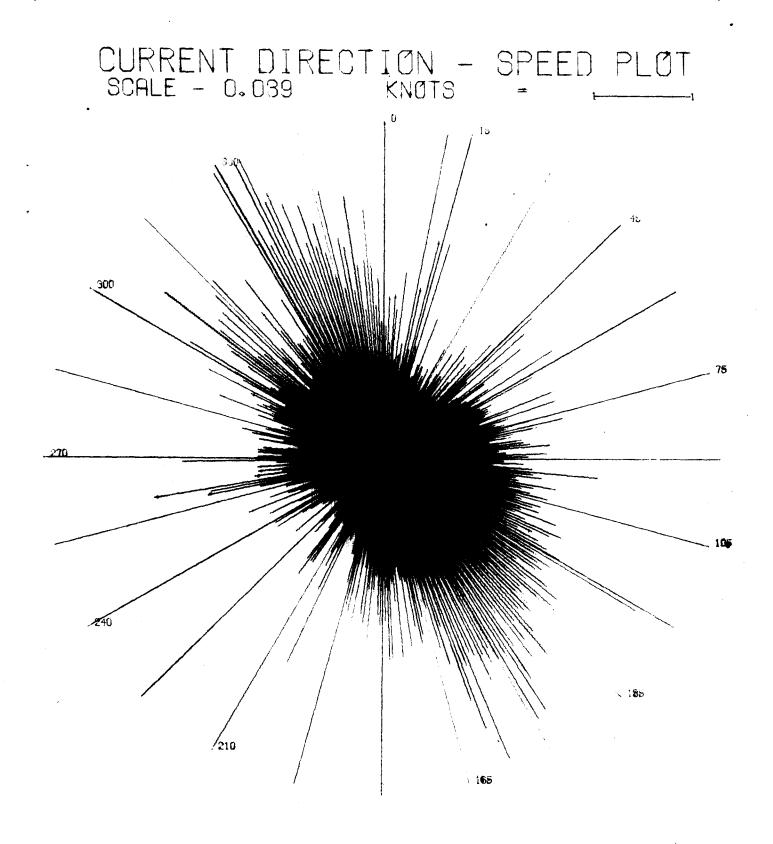
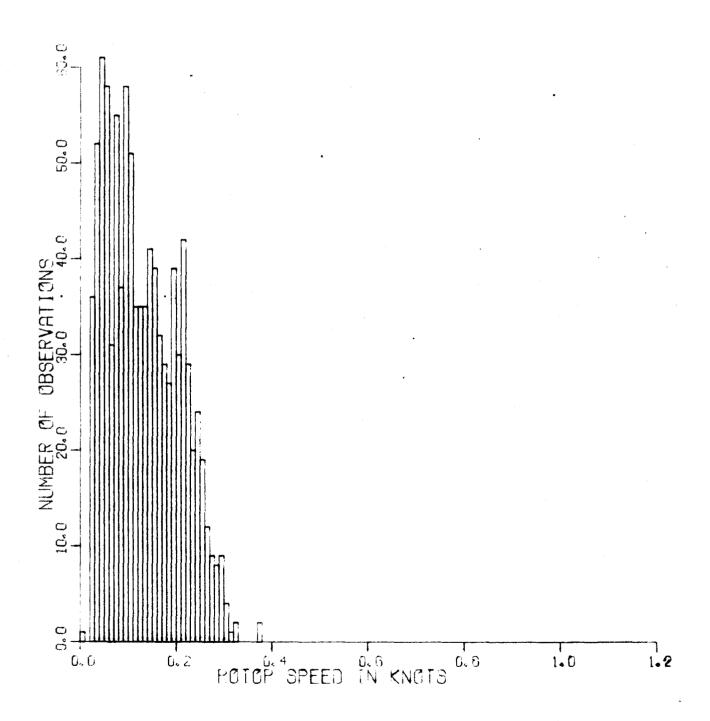


FIGURE 11 CURRENT DIRECTION VS. SPEED-METER 327

CURRENT DIRECTION HISTOGRAM SCALE - 8.286 OBSERVATIONS = 15 45 45

165

CUPRENT SPEED HISTOGRAM



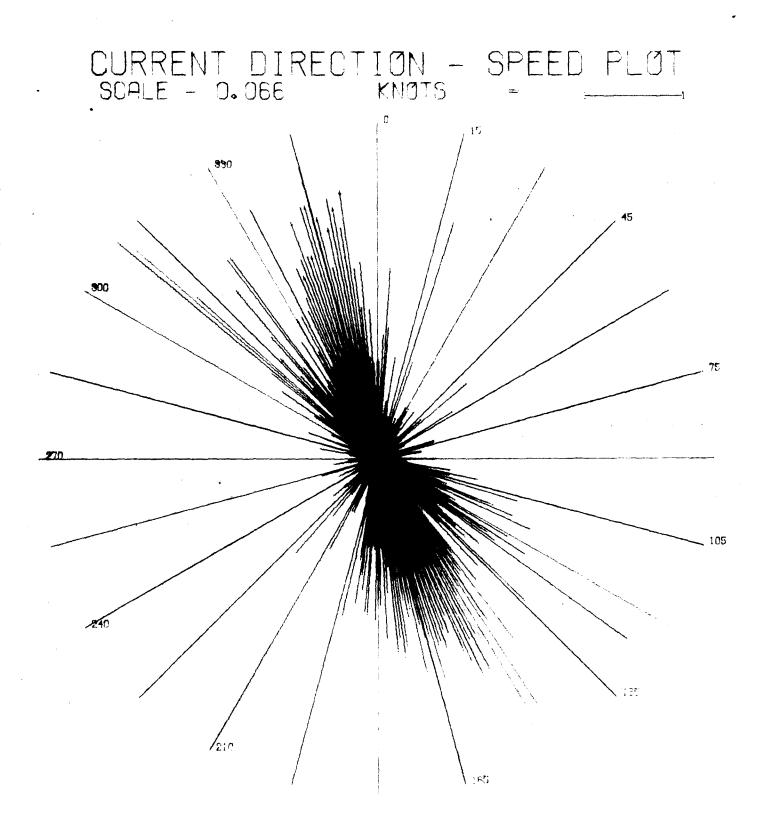


FIGURE 14 CURRENT DIRECTION VS. SPEED - METER 309

CURRENT DIRECTION HISTOGRAM SCALE - 21.714 OBSERVATIONS -

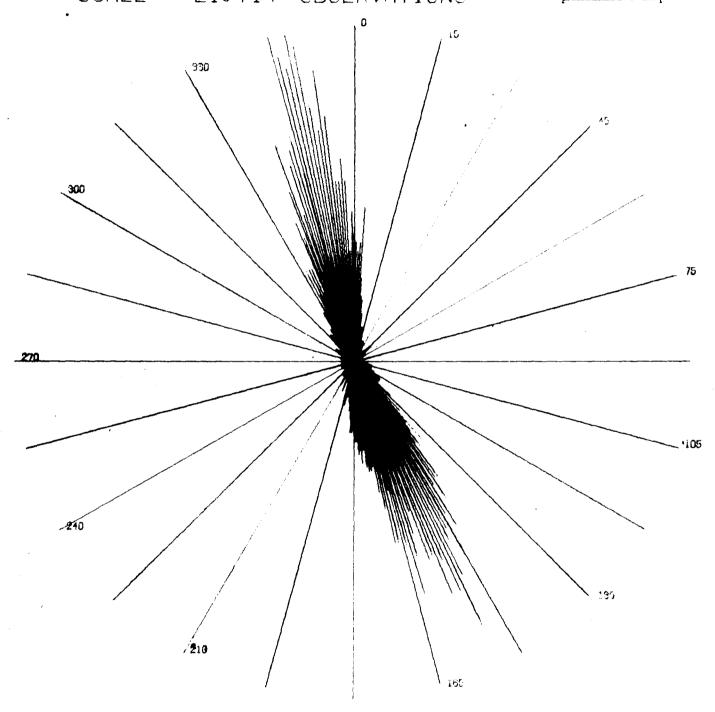
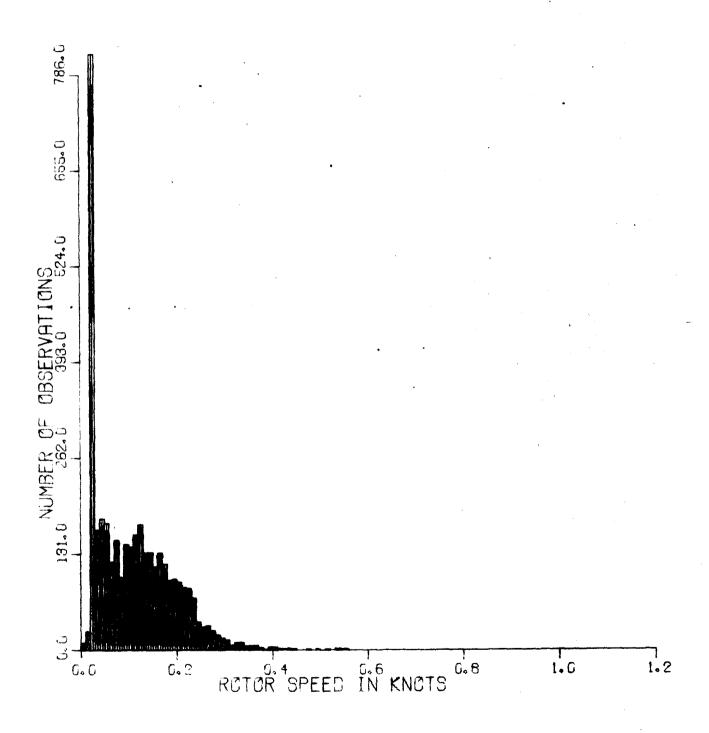
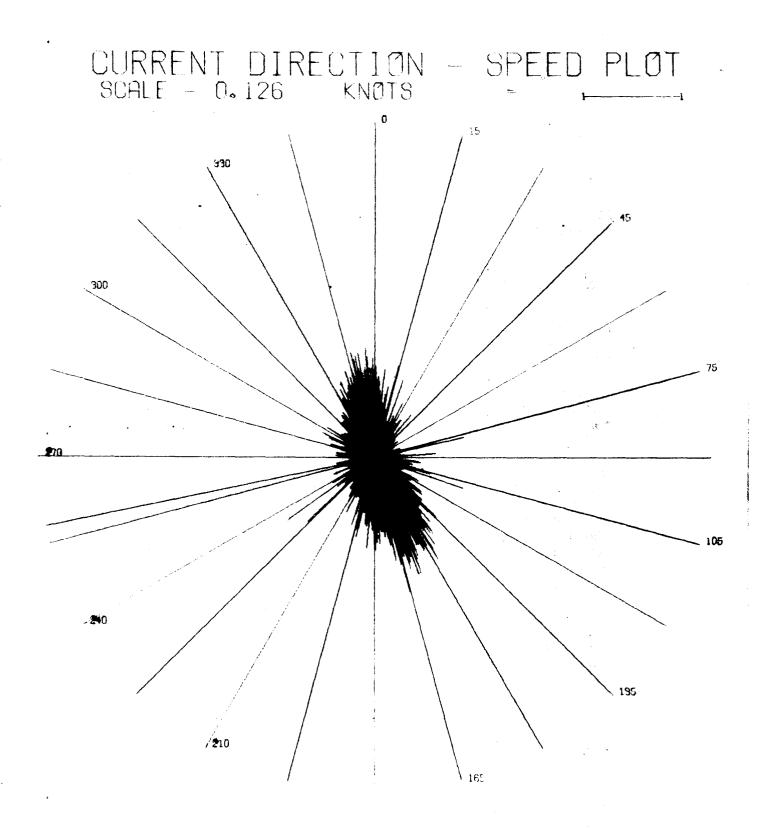


FIGURE 15 CURRENT DIRECTION HISTOGRAM - METER 321

CURRENT SPEED HISTOGRAM





VI. BOTTOM ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING SYSTEM

General

The Bottom Environmental Sensing System (BESS) (Figure 18) is an in situ system used to measure the current speed and direction, and temperature (5). It also obtains photographs of the bottom which are subsequently used to determine the maximum/minimum visibility periods and sediment characteristics. The system was used operationally for the first time during this survey. It was deployed at 1815L 21 August 1967 in 42 fathom and retrieved 1800L 22 August at 32°59' 13.2"N and 118°31' 42.7"W as determined by Randall Radar on S.C.I.

Methods and Procedures

The current and temperature data were collected using a Hydro Products Model 501 In Situ Current Meter. This system utilizes a Savonius rotor to measure the current speed to ${}^{\ddagger}3\%$, magnetic compass to measure direction to ${}^{\ddagger}5\%$, and a thermistor to measure temperature to ${}^{\ddagger}3\%$. These data were plotted on a Rustrak recorder strip chart (Figures 19 & 20). The current speed and direction and temperature readings were scaled every 15 minutes, tabulated (Table I) and graphed as a function of time (Figure 21).

An E.G.&G. Model 205/206 Camera/Strobe System synchronized with a specially designed sequence timer was used to obtain bottom pictures, visibility data, and sediment characteristics. The relative maximum/minimum visibility periods were determined using two target rods painted with white and gray rectangles. The 35mm camera obtained a photograph of these targets every hour during deployment. The film was developed and densities were measured with a 0.5mm aperature densitometer. These densities were then plotted as a function of time (Figure 22).

Penetrometers were used to gain an index of the sediment strength characteristics. Prior to deployment, two penetrometers were fastened to the BESS with magnesium wire. This wire corroded due to the effect of salt water allowing the penetrometers to fall and imbed in the sediment. After the penetrometers are calibrated (penetration vs. shear strength), an index of the sediment shear strength will be ascertained from the photographs.

Analysis and Results

Currents. Of the 93 current speed and temperature readings scaled from the strip chart recording, 26 were below 0.5 knots, 47 were 0.5 knots, and 20 were above 0.5 knots. The minimum speed of 0.3 knots occurred at 1915L 21 August. The maximum speed of 0.7 knots occurred between 0430-0500L 22 August. The current direction trace on the recording is off scale and although a constant vector to the north is indicated, it is considered questionable. The temperature readings vary between 11.0°C and 12.0°C.

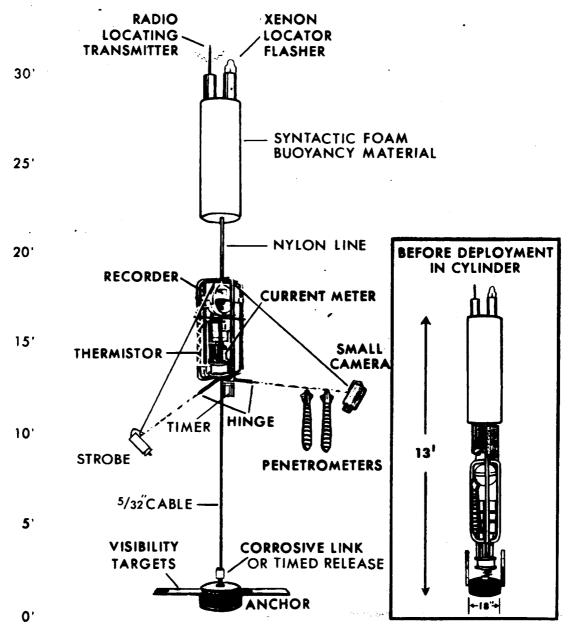
Visibility. Inasmuch as the BESS was planted in only 42 fathoms, the effect of ambient light during the daylight hours is evident (Figure 22). However, the relative maximum/minimum visibility periods can still be determined from the plot. As the densities change with time, it can be stated that visibility in the area is decreasing or increasing due to a change in the volume of backscatterers present in the water mass. The visibility minimums (increase in volume of backscatterers with a corresponding increase in film density) occur at 1915, 2215, 0215, 1215, 1515L. The visibility maximums (decrease in volume of backscatterers) occur at 2015, 0015, 0515, 0915, 1415L. It is interesting to note that the excursions of the visibility plot coincide with the excursions of the current speed and temperature plots. For example, the visibility maximum at 0515L coincides with the current speed maximum of 0.7 knots and very near the temperature maximum of 12.0°C.

Sediment. Figure 23 shows the sea floor, visibility targets, and penetrometers. One of the penetrometers is shown laying on its side which is probably due to its hitting a target rod, rock, or shell fragment on the bottom. The other penetrometer is imbedded about 5" indicating a hard bottom. This was substantiated during coring operations when only short sandy cores were obtained.

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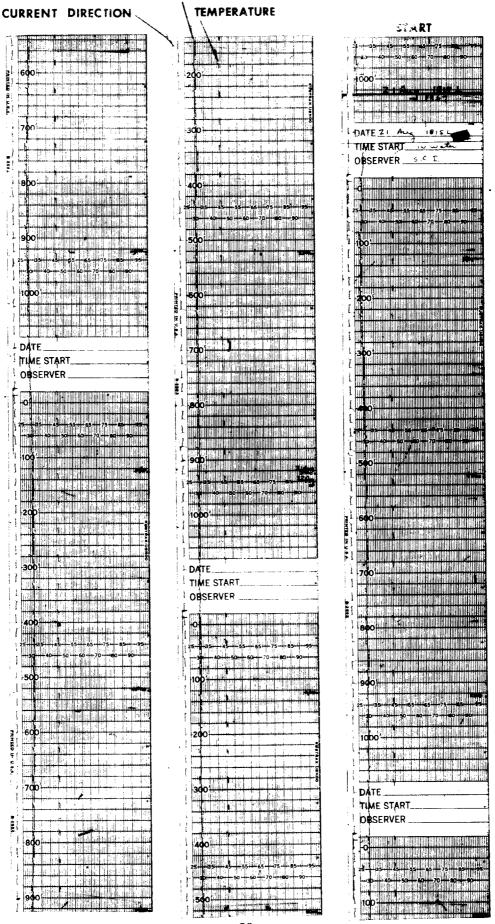
BOTTOM ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY PROJECT



BOTTOM ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING SYSTEM

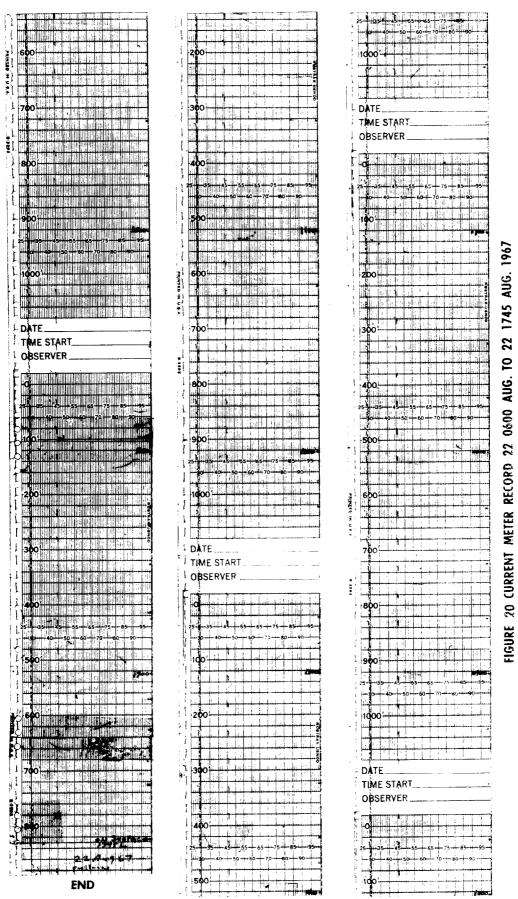
MEASURING VISIBILITY, SEDIMENT STRENGTH, CURRENTS, TEMPERATURE, and TAKING BOTTOM PHOTOGRAPHS

FIGURE 18 BOTTOM ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING SYSTEM



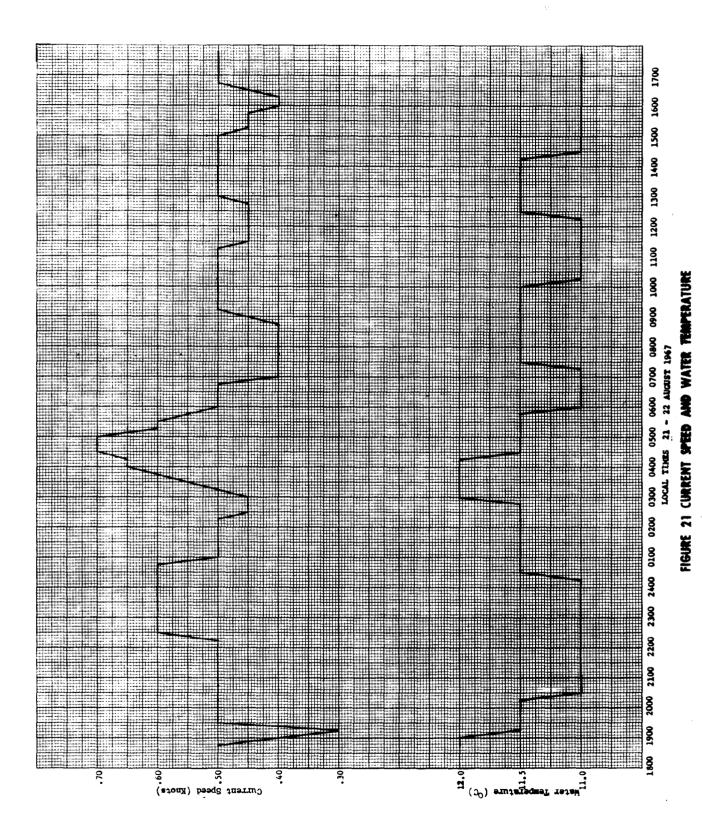
CURRENT SPEED

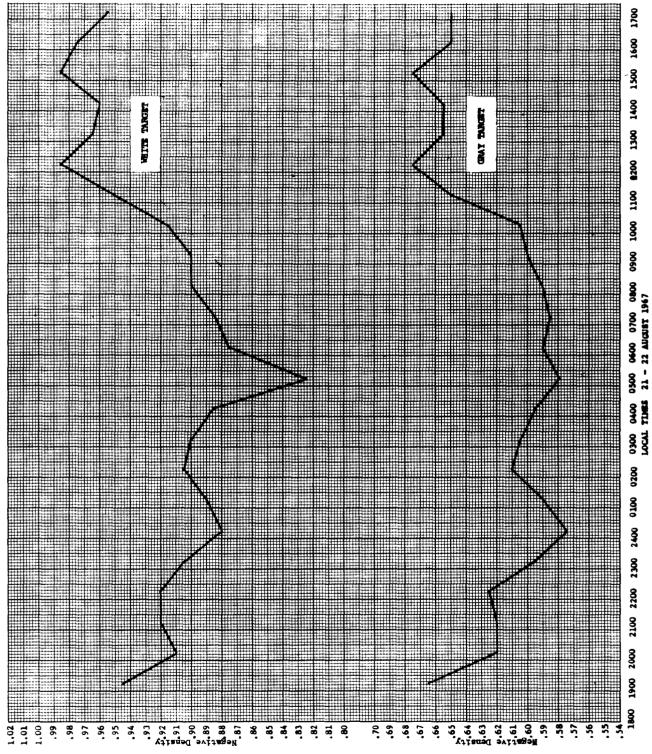
FIGURE 19 CURRENT METER RECORD 21 1815 AUG. TO 22 0600 AUG. 1967



Local Time	Current Speed	Current Direction	Water Temp ^O C	Local Time	Current Speed	Current Direction	Water Temp 20
21 Aug 67	•	DITUCTION	Temp C				
1815	Fandament	Da-1		0600	•50	Vector to	11.0
1815 1830	Equipment	Vector to		0615	•50	North "	11.0
				0630	•50		11.0
1845	.50	North	12.0	0645	•50	50	11.0
1900	.40	•••	12.0	0700	.40	**	11.0
1915	.30		11.5	0715	.40	••	11.0
1930	.50	.,	11.5	0730	•40	. 11	11.5
1945	.50		11.5	0745	.40	**	11.5
2000	•50	1	11.5	0800	.40	*1	11.5
2015	.50	**	11.5	0815	.40	11	11.5
2030	•50	*1	11.0	0830	.40	11	11.5
2045	.50	"	11.0	0845	.40	**	11.5
2100	•50	11	11.0	0900	.45	11	11.5
2015	.50	"	11.0	0915	.50	11	11.5
2030	₹50	["	11.0	0930	.50	"	11.5
2045	.50	"	11.0	0945	•50	**	11.5
2200	.50	11	11.0	1000	.50	II.	11.5
2215	.50	11	11.0	1015	.50	**	11.0
2230	.60	"	11.0	1030	.50	**	11.0
2245	.60	11	11.0	1045	.50	"	11.0
2300	.60	**	11.0	1100	.50	**	11.0
2315	.60	t1	11.0	1115	.50	**	11.0
2330	.60	11	11.0	1130	.45	11	11.0
2345	.60	••	11.0	1145	.45	.,	11.0
2400	.60	"	11.0	1200	.45	71	11.0
2 Aug 67	_			1215	45	11	11.0
0015	•60	"	11.0	1230	.45	11	11.5
0030	.60	11	11.5	1245	.45	11	11.5
0045	.60	11	11.5	1300	.50	••	11.5
0100	.50	11	11.5	1315	.50		11.5
0115	.50	.,	11.5	1330	.50	11	11.5
0130	.50	.,	11.5	1345	.50	7.9	
0145	.50			1400		**	11.5
0200	.50	11	11.5	1	.50	11	11.5
0215	.50	11	11.5	1415	.50	11	11.5
0213	.45	11	11.5	1430	•50	11	11.0
	.45		11.5	1445	.50	11	11.0
0245	•	11	11.5	1500	.50		11.0
0300	.45		12.0	1515	.45		11.0
0315	.50		12.0	1530	.45	1	11.0
0330	455		12.0	1545	.45	11	11.0
0345	.60	.,	12.0	1600	.40	**	11.0
0400	.65		12.0	1615	.40	**	11.0
0415	.65	1	12.0	1630	.45	**	11.0
0430	.70	"	11.5	1645	•50	11	11.0
0445	• 70	"	11.5	1700	.50	11	11.0
0500	.70	"	11.5	1715	. 50	11	11.0
0515	.60	11	11.5	1730	•50	11	11.0
0530	.60	11	11.5	1745	.50	11	11.0
0545	.55	••	11.5	1800	unsettled		
	1	1 1		I	ŧ	1 1	

TABLE I. BESS Current Speed and Direction and Water Temperature





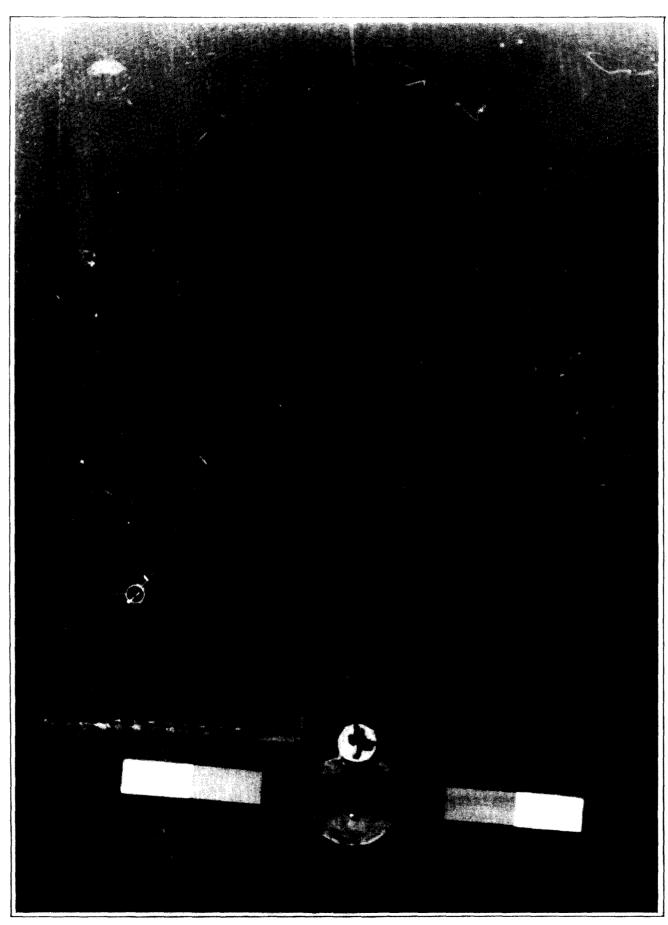


FIGURE 23 PHOTO OF SEA FLOOR VISIBILITY TARGETS AND PENETROMETERS

VII. SEA FLOOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF SEA LAB III AREA

General

Sea floor photographs were obtained in the SEA LAB III area on 5 and 6 July 1967 along the tracks shown in Figure 24. These photographs show a variety of bottom types.

Methods and Procedures

An E.G. &G. Model 204/214 Camera/Strobe System with 35mm Kodak Tri-X film was used to obtain the photographs. This system was mounted on a frame designed to photograph in a plane 30° from the horizontal (Figure 25). This oblique orientation of camera and light source produced a shadow affect which improved the definition of the bottom's smaller features. The addition of fins to the frame made it possible to tow the camera system along the desired tracks. The DAVIS was navigated by Randall Radar on San Clemente Island.

Analysis and Results

Quasi-photo mosaics of the SEA LAB III area sea floor are shown in Figures 26 through 29. The bottom is alternately smooth and flat, steep, and boulder strewn. There was insufficient time during the survey to obtain sufficient bottom photographs to make a reasonably complete pictorial presentation of the bottom. Additional photographic runs should be made before a detailed chart depicting the sea floor characteristics of the SEA LAB III area can be constructed.

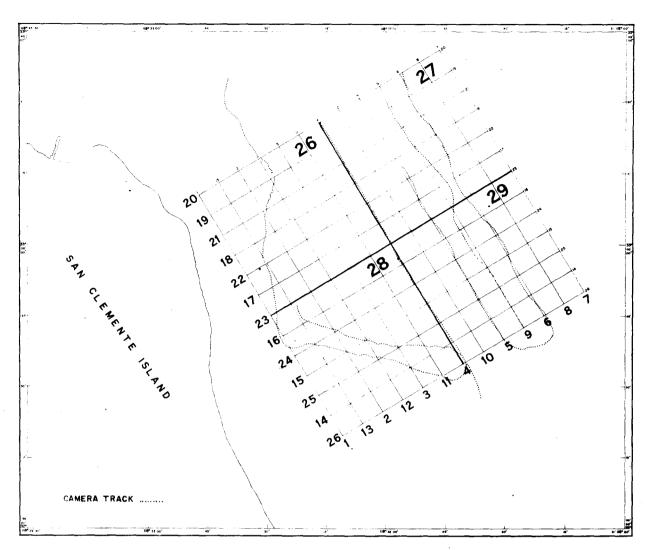


FIGURE 24 LOCATIONS OF SEA FLOOR PHOTOGRAPHS AND QUASI-MOSAIC SHEET INDEX

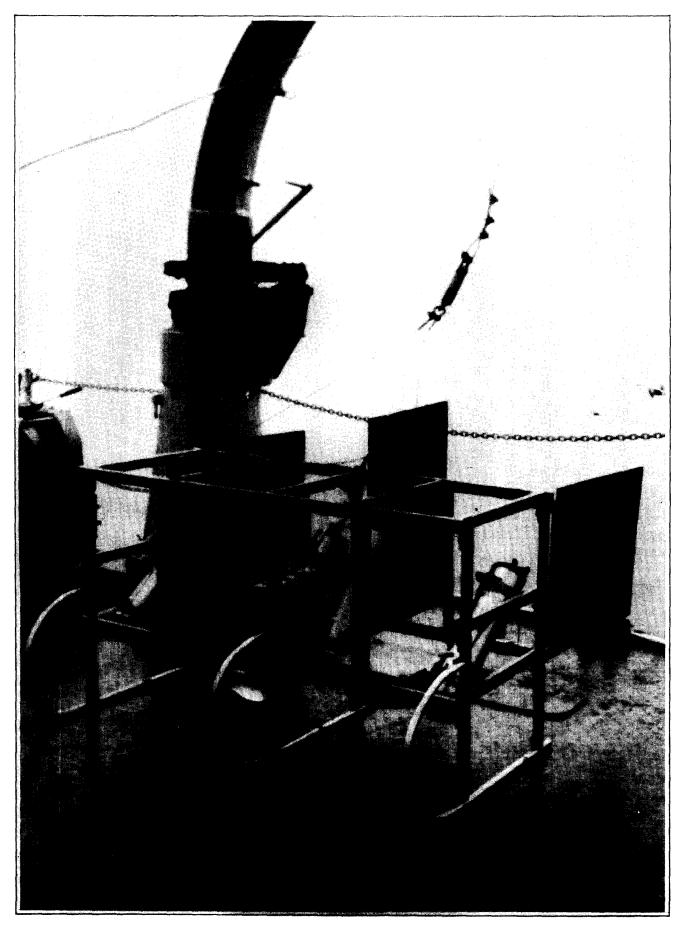


FIGURE 25 OBLIQUE CAMERA SYSTEM 33

VIII. REFERENCES

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- 3. KRUMBEIN, W.C. and PETTIJOHN, F.J.: "Manual of Sedimentary Petrography;" Appelton, Century, Crofts, Inc., New York. 1938. 549 p.
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APPENDIX A BOTTOM SAMPLE LOG SHEETS

OCEANOGRAPHIC LOG SHEET-R NAVOCEANO-EDF-3147/18 (18v.1-43)

CRUISE NO. SEALAB III San Clemente

GRAB SAMPLE ANALYSIS SUMMARY SHEET SEDIMENT SIZE AND COMPOSITION

ANALYZED BY J.B. Coleman

DATE 10 Oct 1967

DATE LOGGED: 16 July 1967

	LAB NO.	COLOR	SEDIMENT TYPE	REMARKS
SAMPLE NO: 1 LAT:32°59'39" LONG:118°32'06" DATE: 5/7/67 WATER DEPTH: 88m	P4-1	light olive gray 5 Y 4/2	shelly sand	medium to coarse subangular sand 80% calcareous, Forams, Globes, algae, Bryozoa, Pelecypods; 20% medium to coarse, subangular to angular to rounded quartz.
SAMPLE NO: 2 LAT: same LONG: position DATE: 5/7/67 WATER DEPTH: 88m	P4-2	lt olive gray to yell ow gray. 5Y4/2-5Y7/2		fine to coarse subangular sand. 80-90% shells, Pelecypods, Bryozca, Forams, algae.10-20% quartz and feldspar.trace of silt, clay, and volcanics.
SAMPLE NO: 3 LAT:same LONG: position DATE:5/7/67 WATER DEPTH: 88m	P4-3	lt yellowish gray 5Y7/2	sand	medium to coarse, subangular san 80% calcareous Forams, Bryozoa, algae, Pelecypod fragments.10% quartz xtals. 10% hornblend and volcanics.
SAMPLE NO: 4 LAT:33°00'30" LONG:118°31'48" DATE:7/7/67 WATER DEPTH: 302m	P4-4	olive gray 5Y3/1	calcareou sand	s medium to coarse sand, contains Forams, shell fragments, volcanic breccia material. pink stain.
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This report presents oceanographic data collected during July and August 1967 aboard the USNS DAVIS (T-AGOR 5) in the San Clemente Island Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle Test Range and SEA LAB III areas. The Deep-Towed Profiler records show two small valleys in the SEA LAB III area. The bottom's surface was predominately sand at the sites sampled. Nansen cast data show that the water column temperature decreases almost linearly below the thermocline. Although current speeds of 0.5 knots were recorded at the 100 and 260 fathom sites, the predominant current speeds varied from 0.0 to 0.2 knots. The near-bottom current at the 42 fathom site reached 0.7 knots with a mean speed of 0.5 knots. The current direction at the sites sampled reverses along an axis parallel to San Clemente Island. Bottom photographs show that the bottom is alternately smooth and flat, steep, and boulder strewn.

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13. ABSTRACT

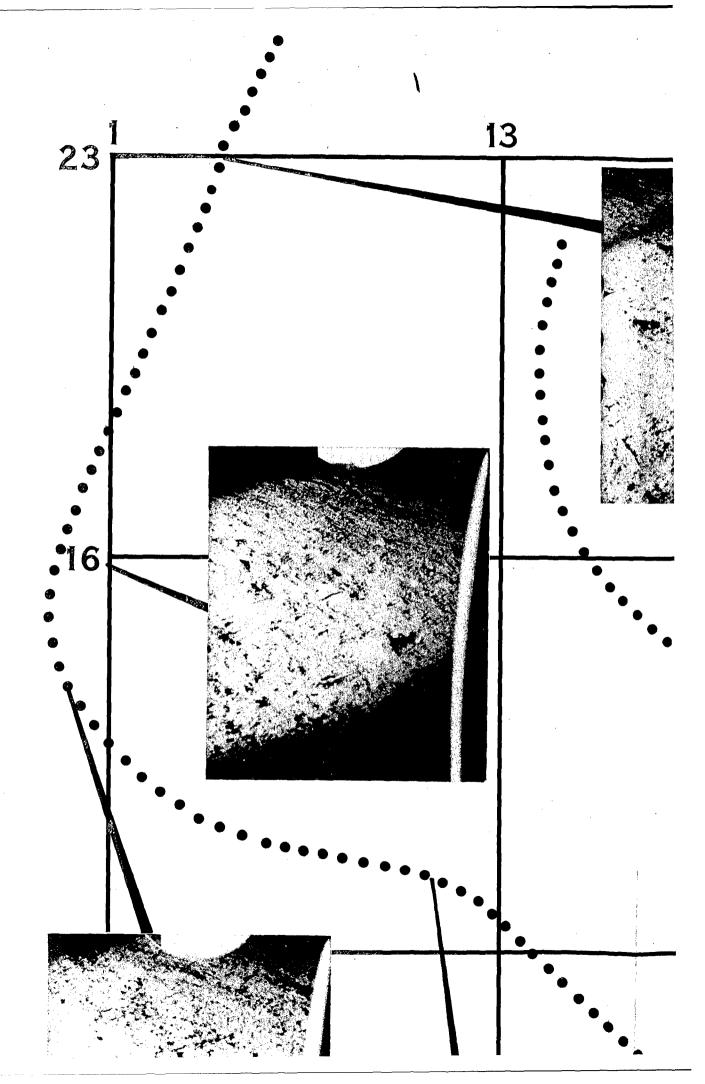
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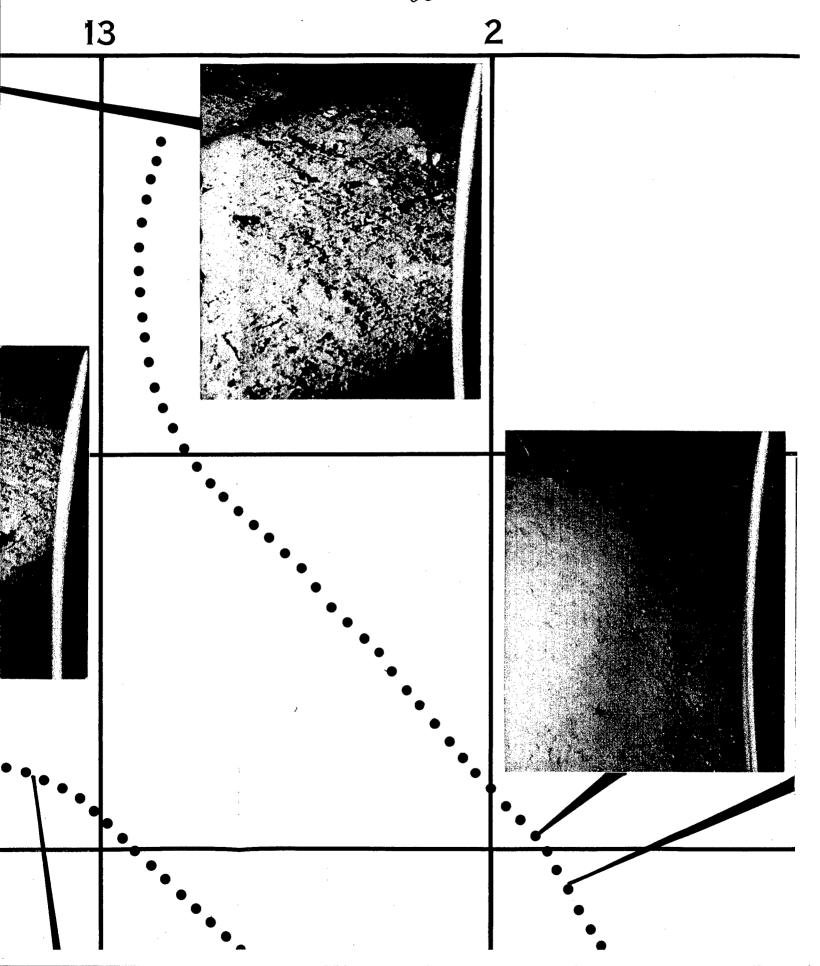
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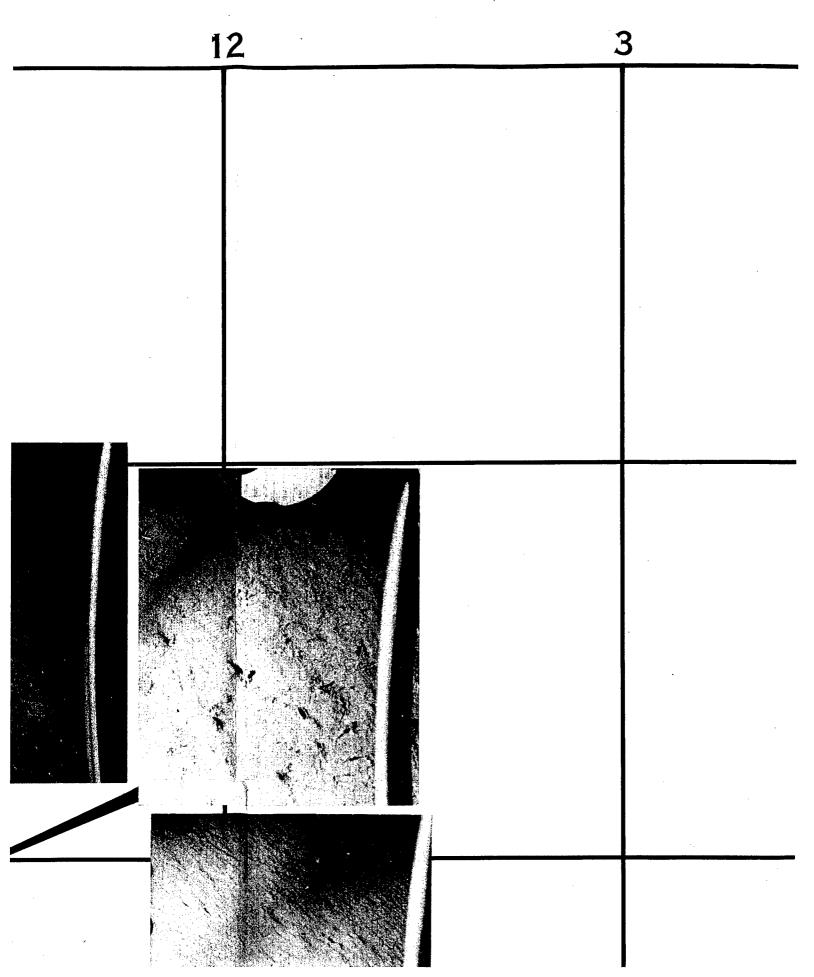
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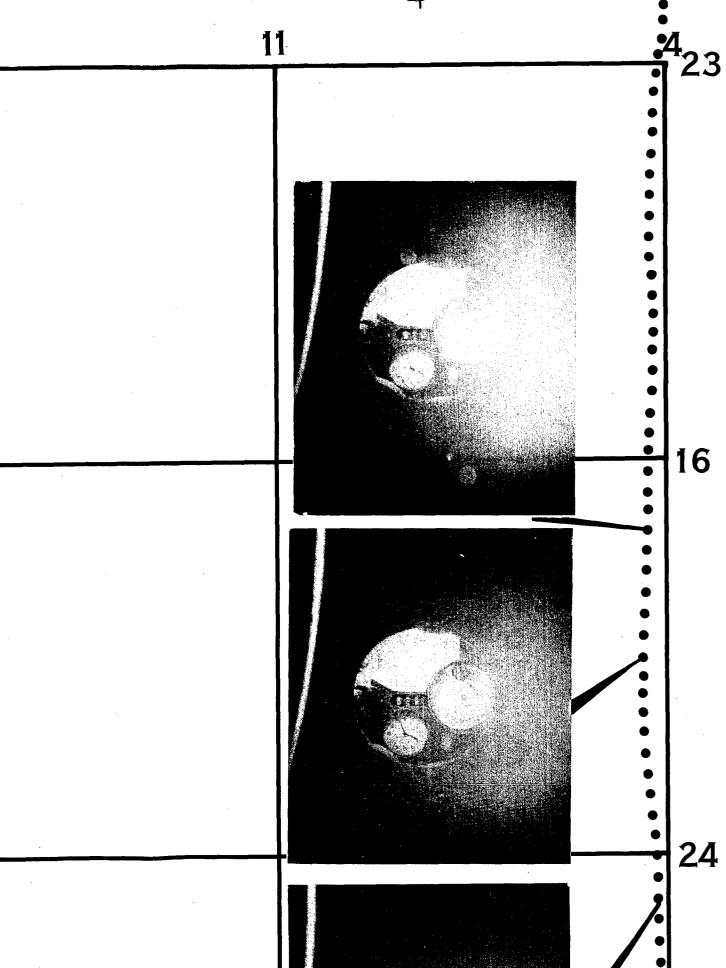
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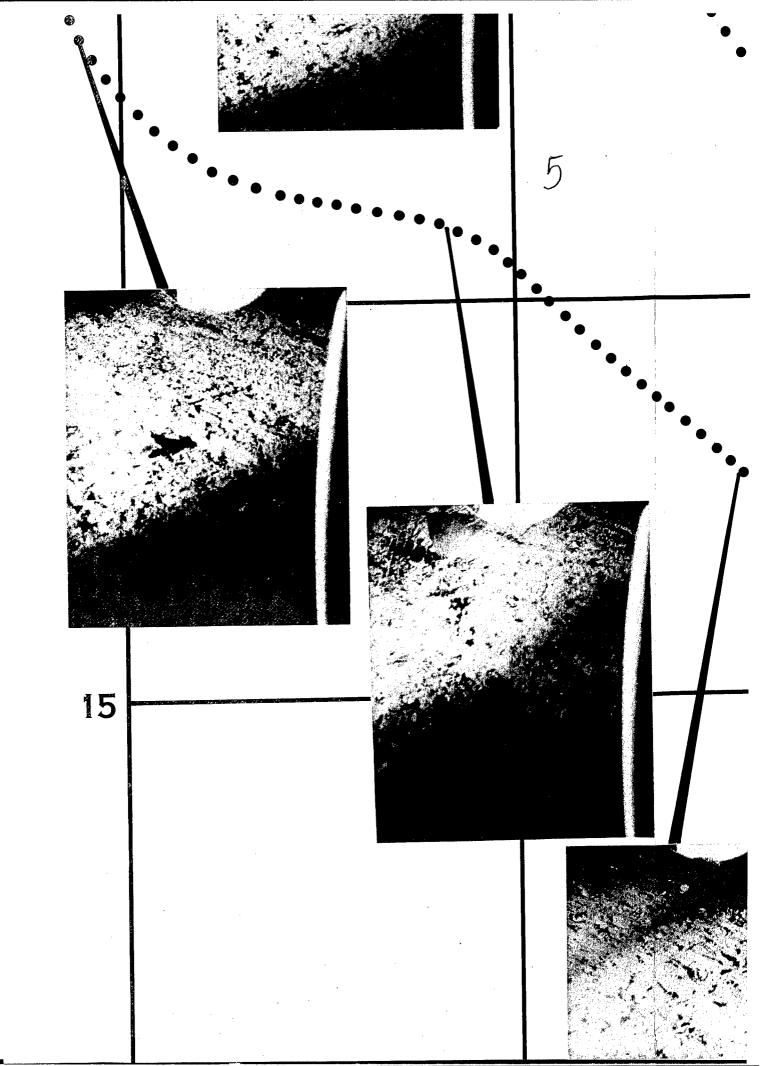
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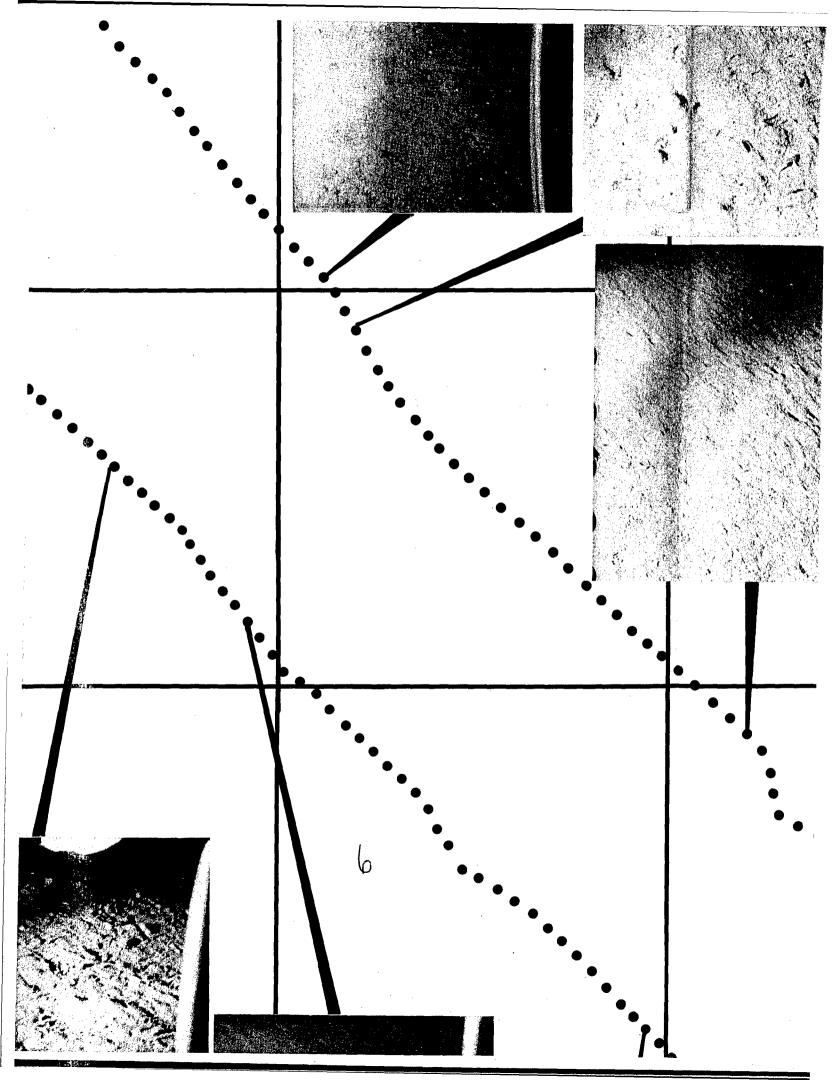


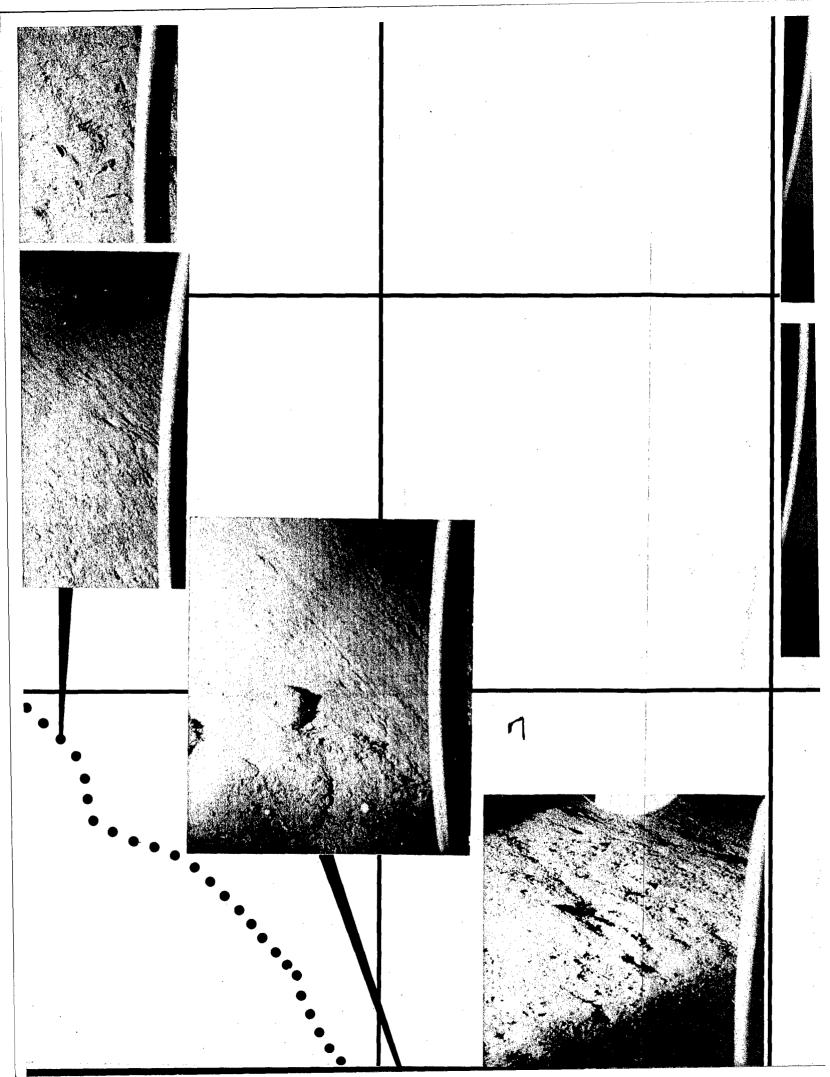


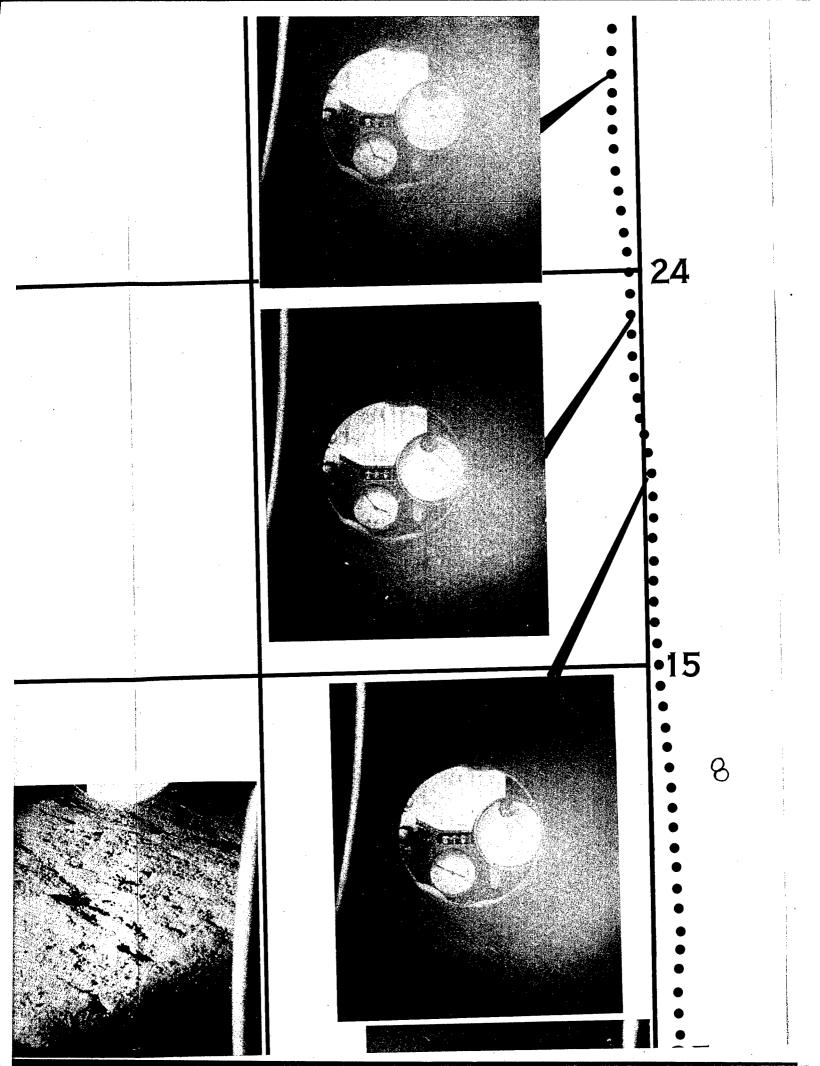


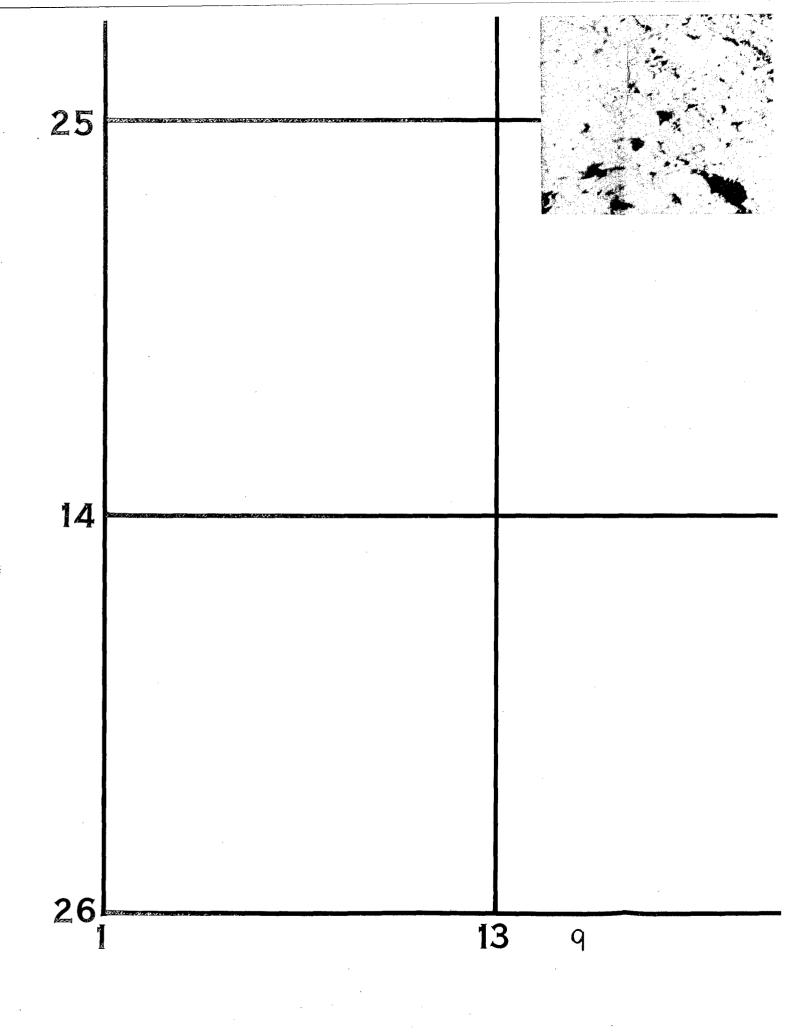












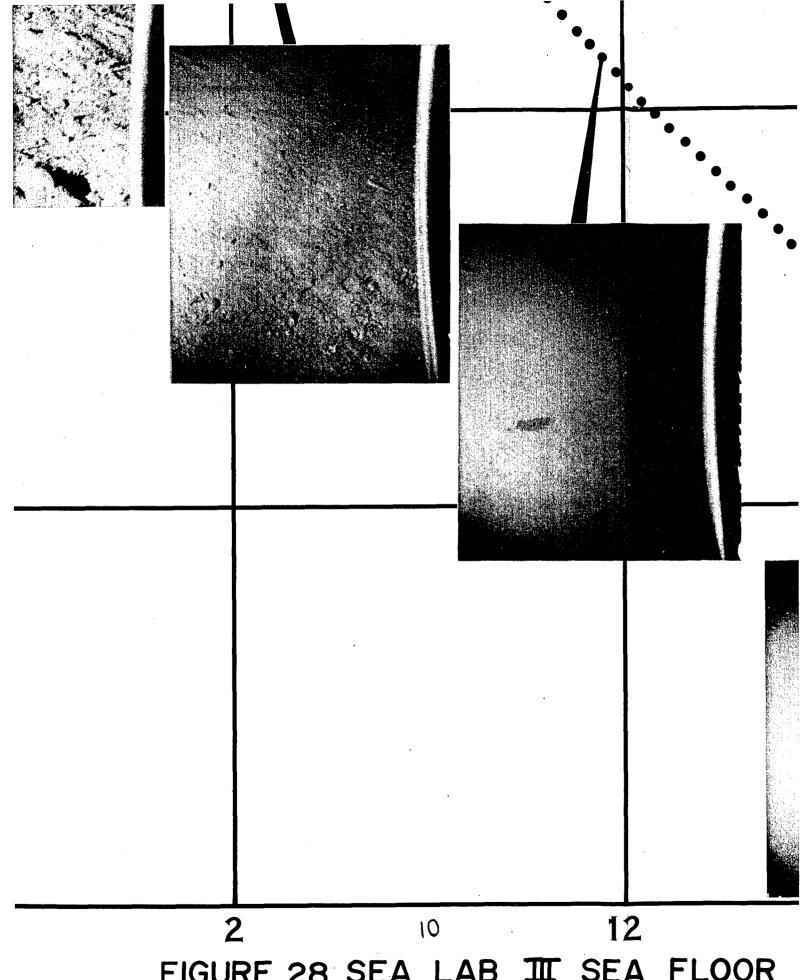
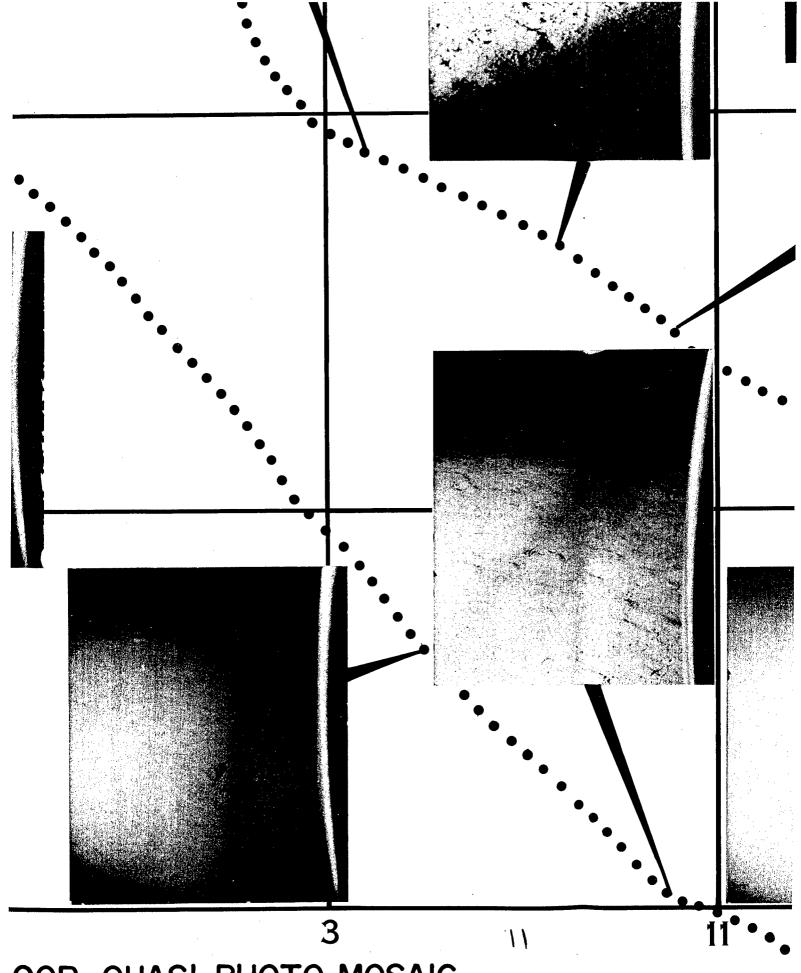
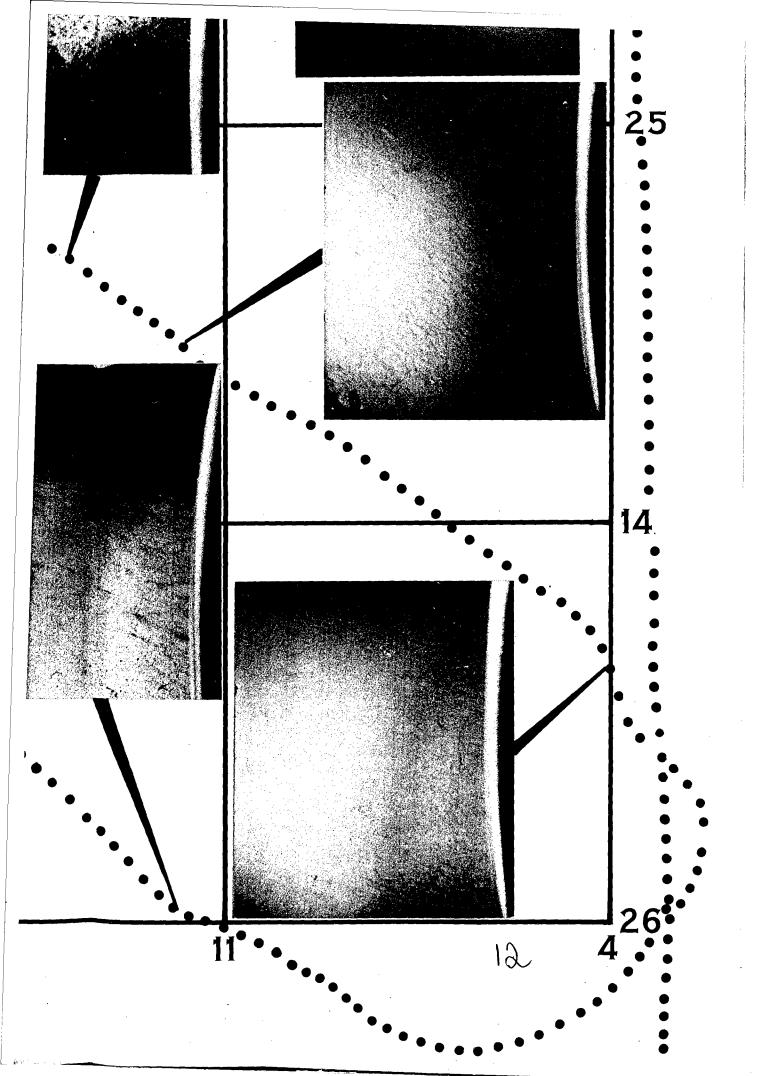
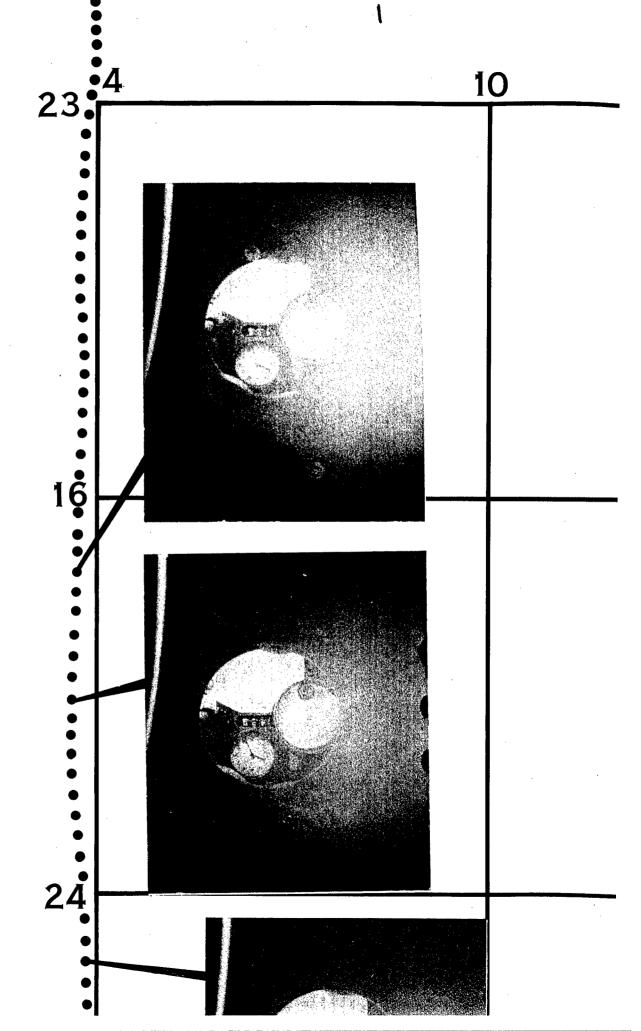


FIGURE 28 SEA LAB III SEA FLOOR

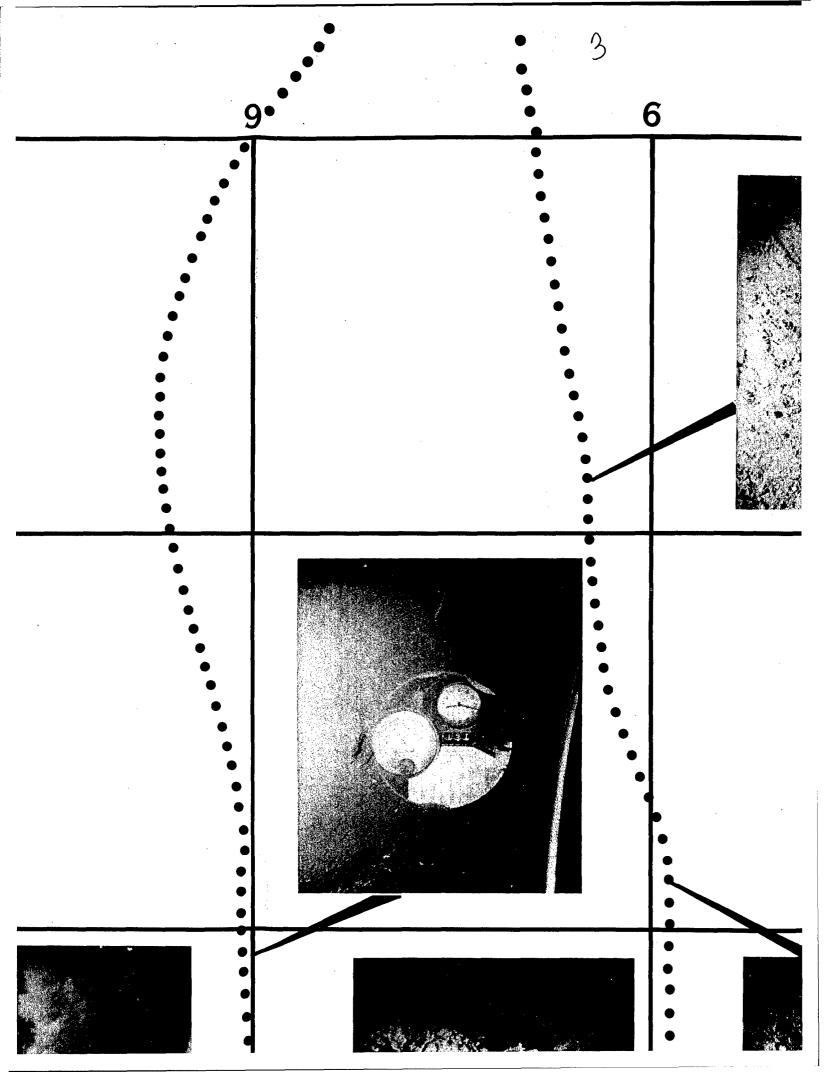


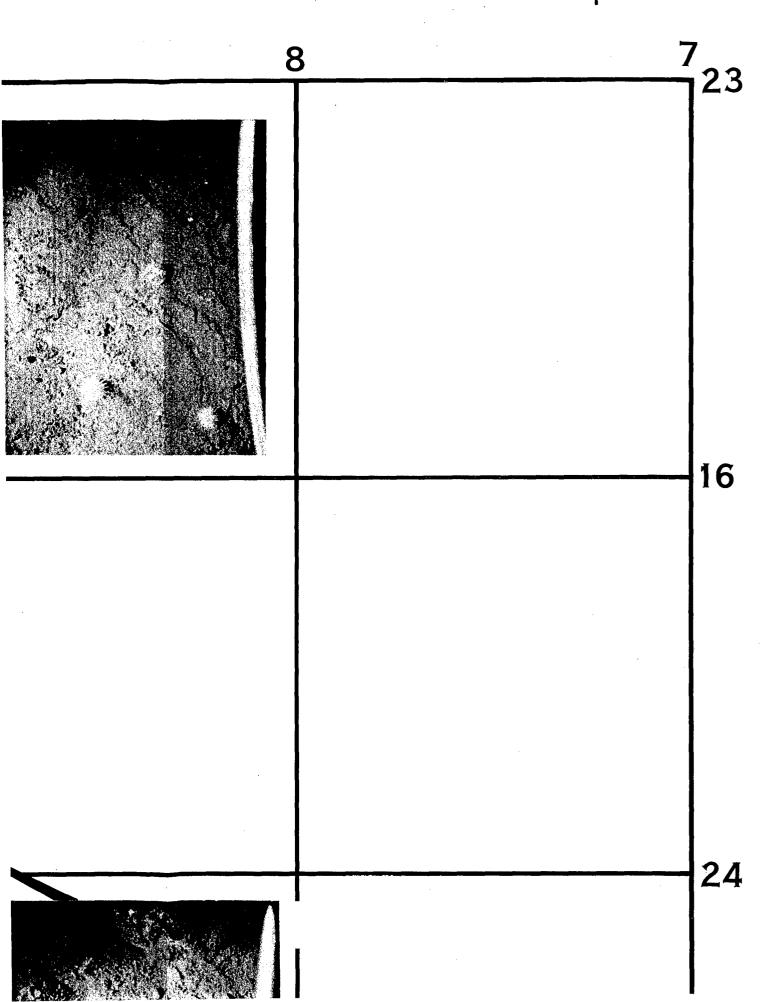
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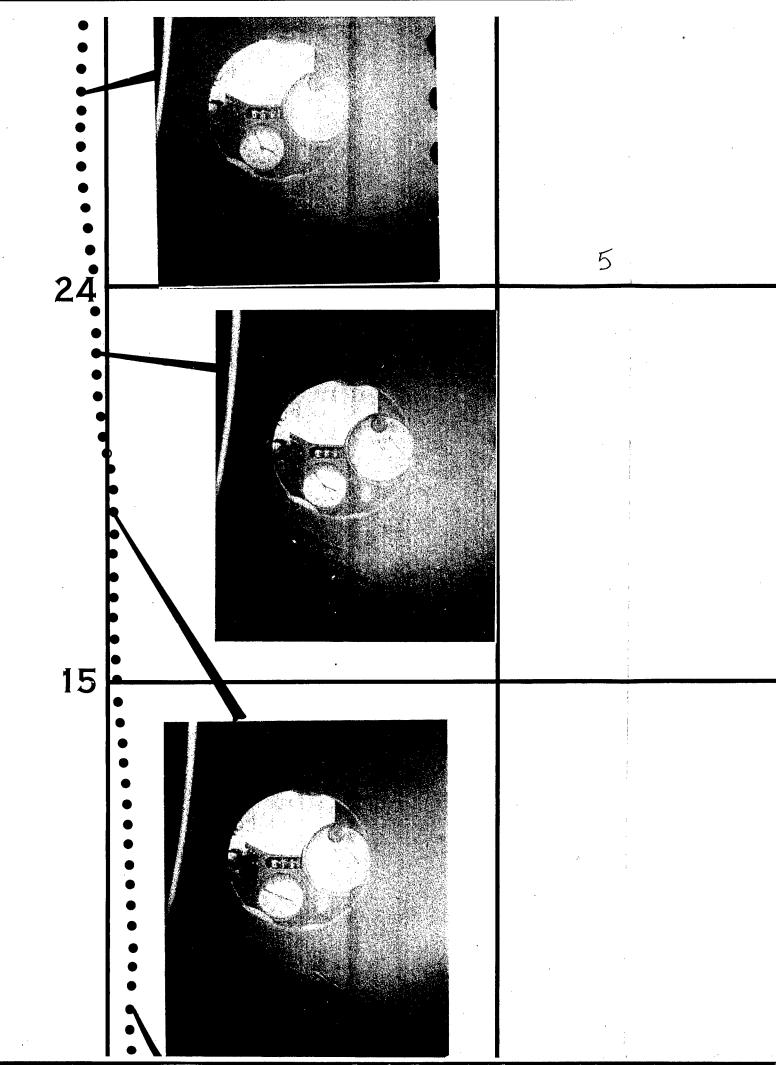


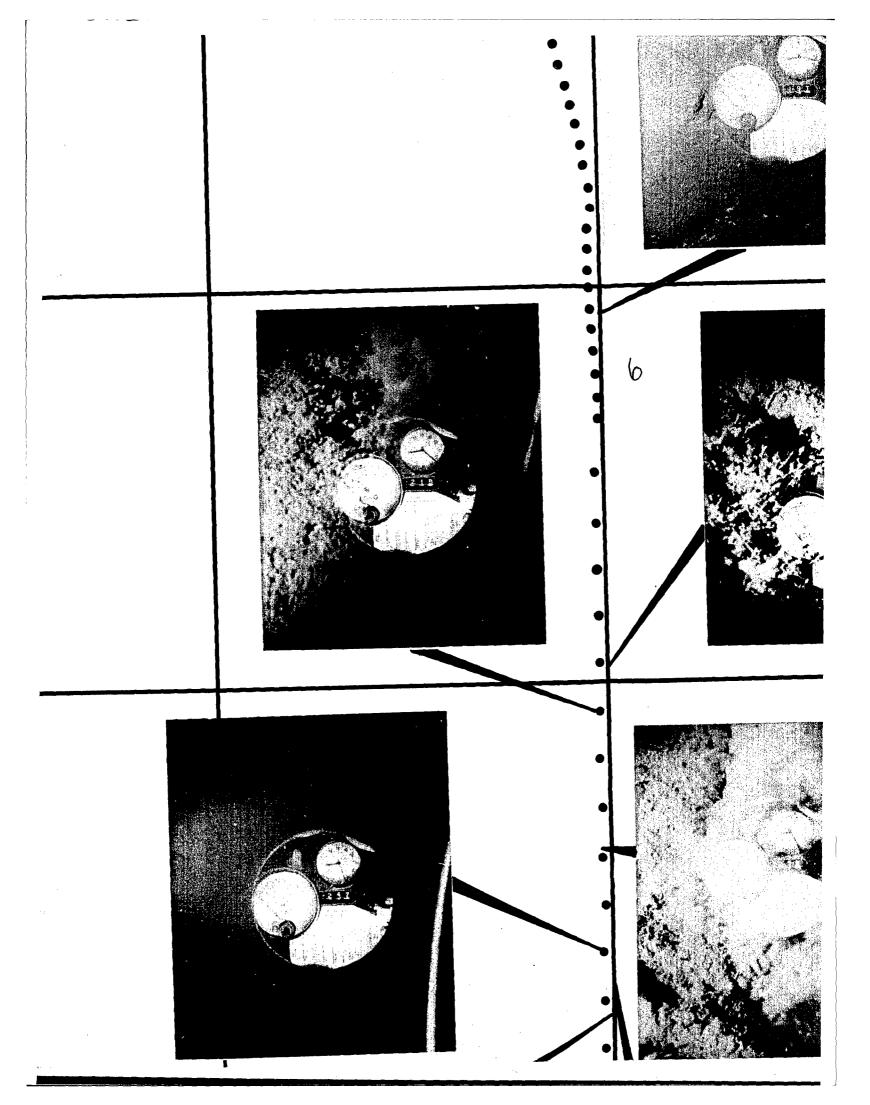


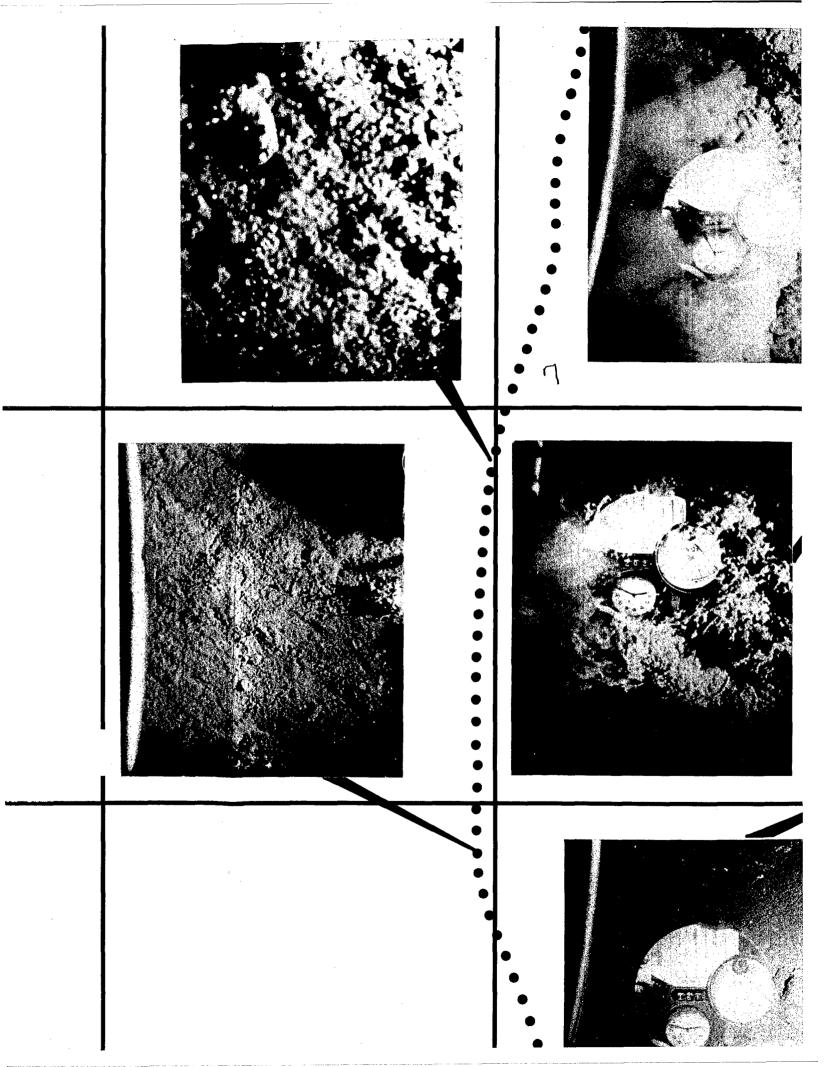
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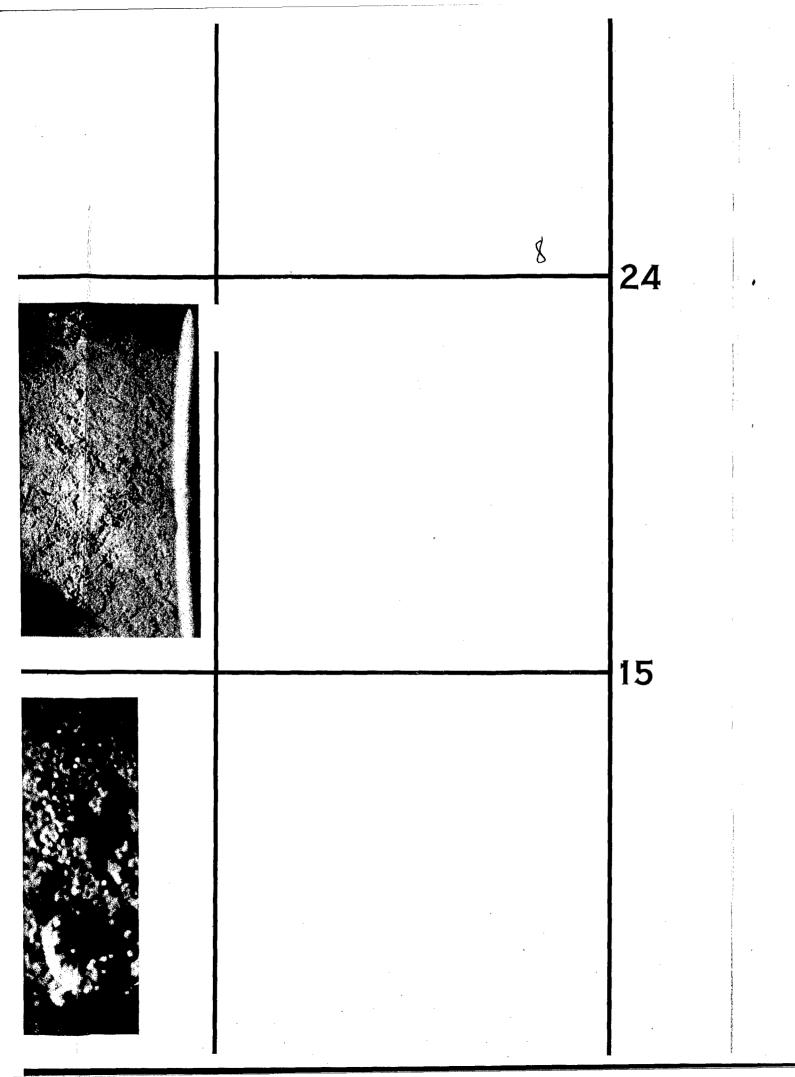


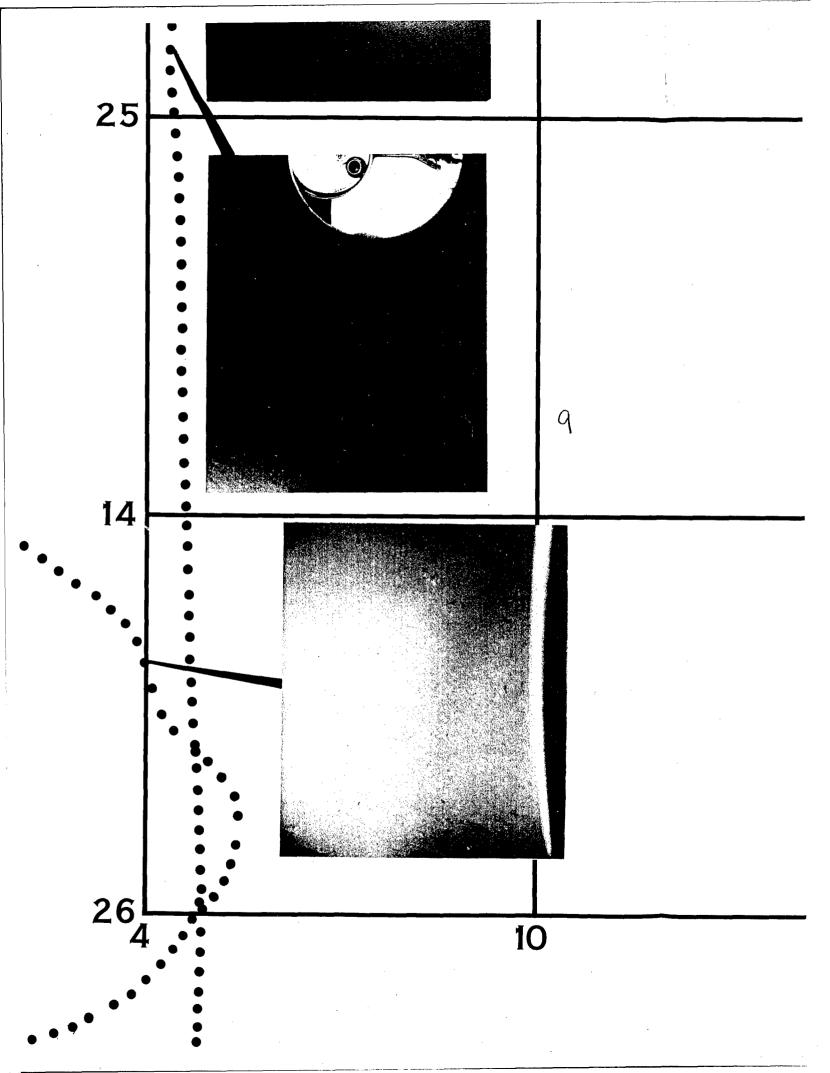












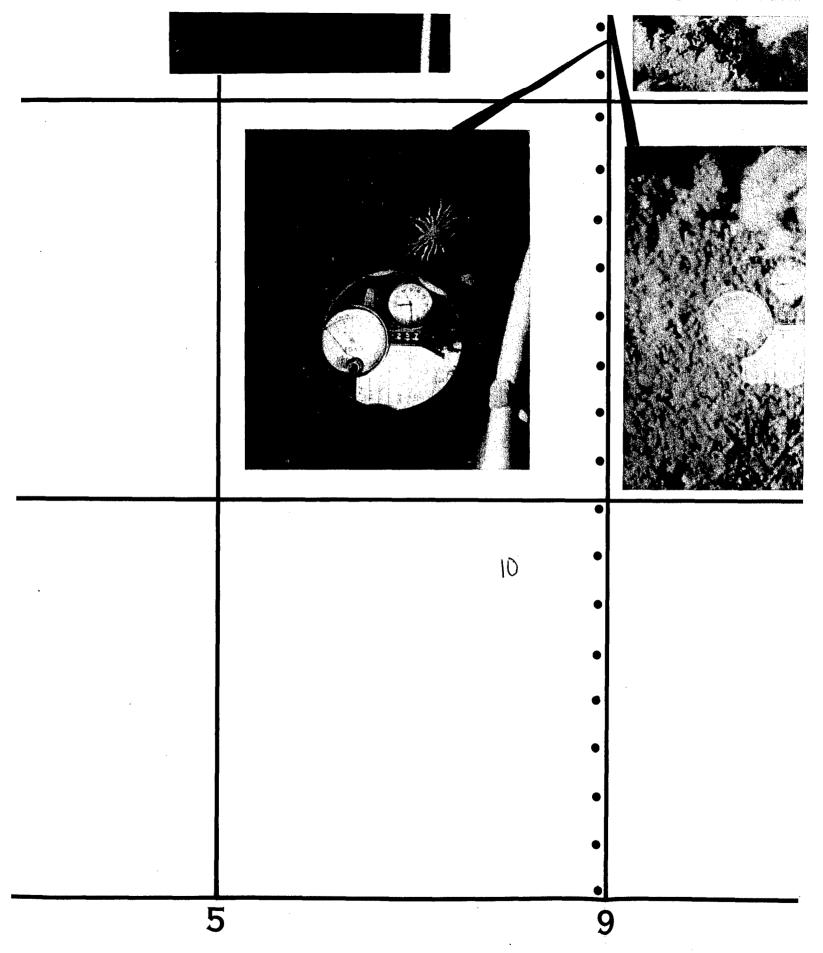
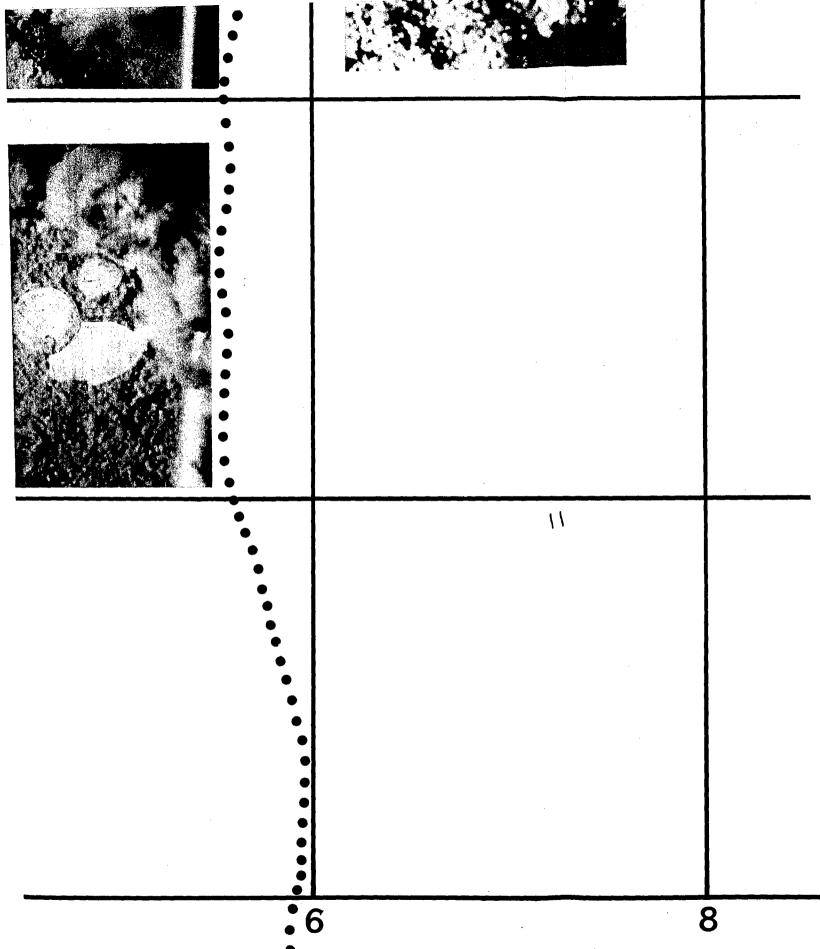
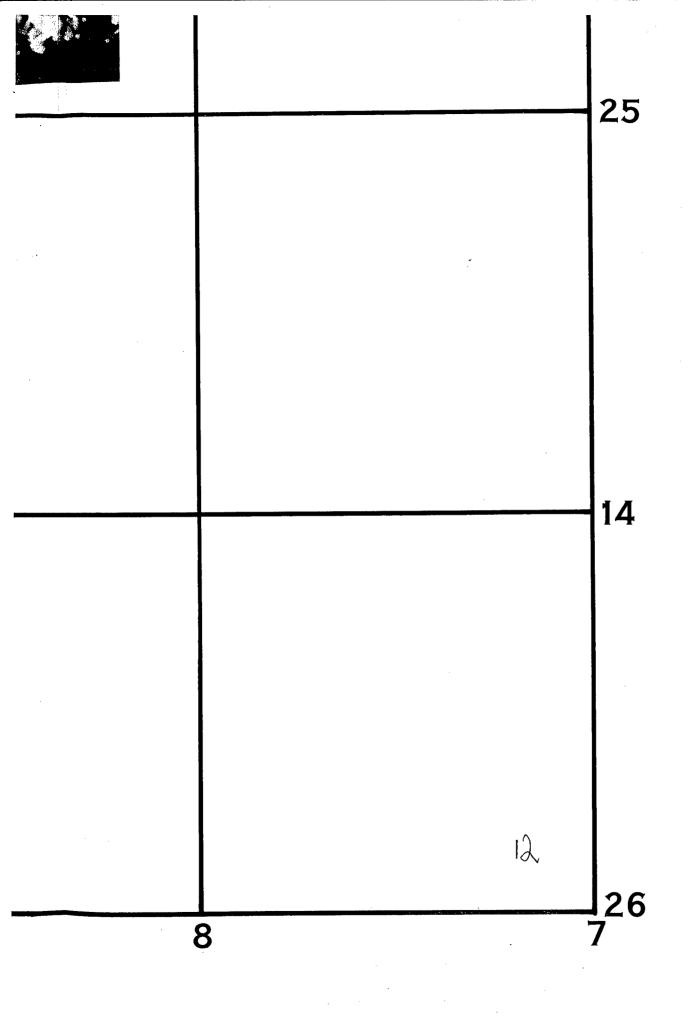
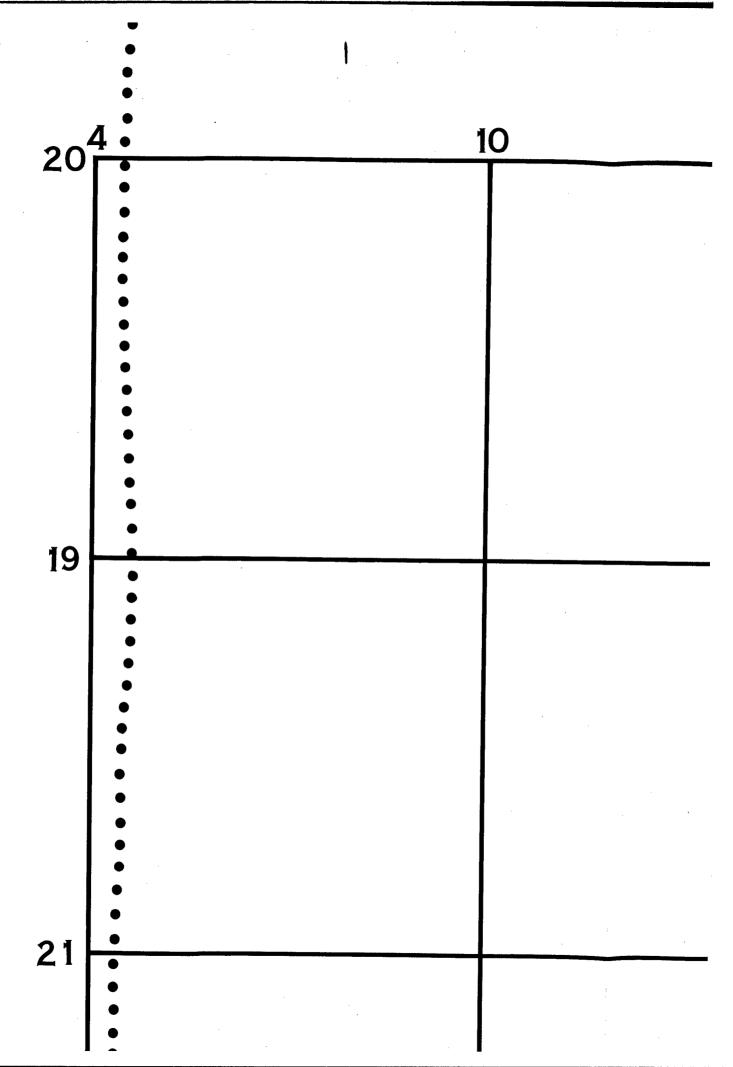


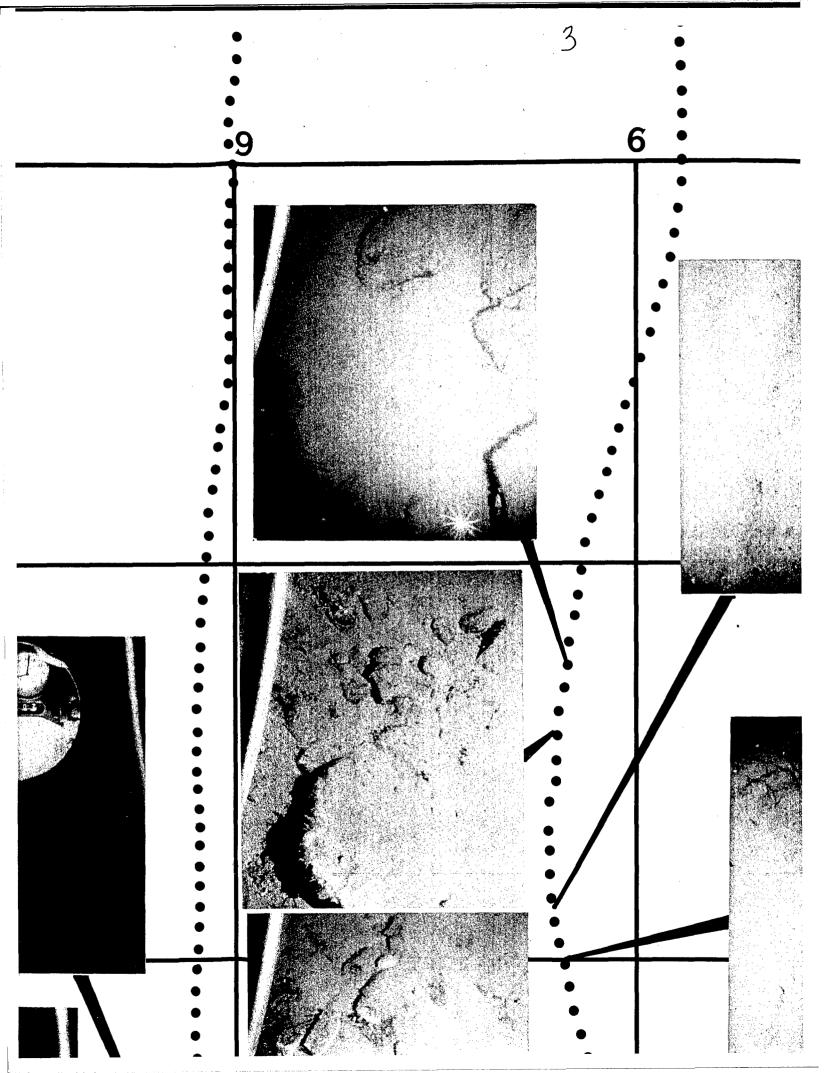
FIGURE 29 SEA LAB III SEA FLOOR G

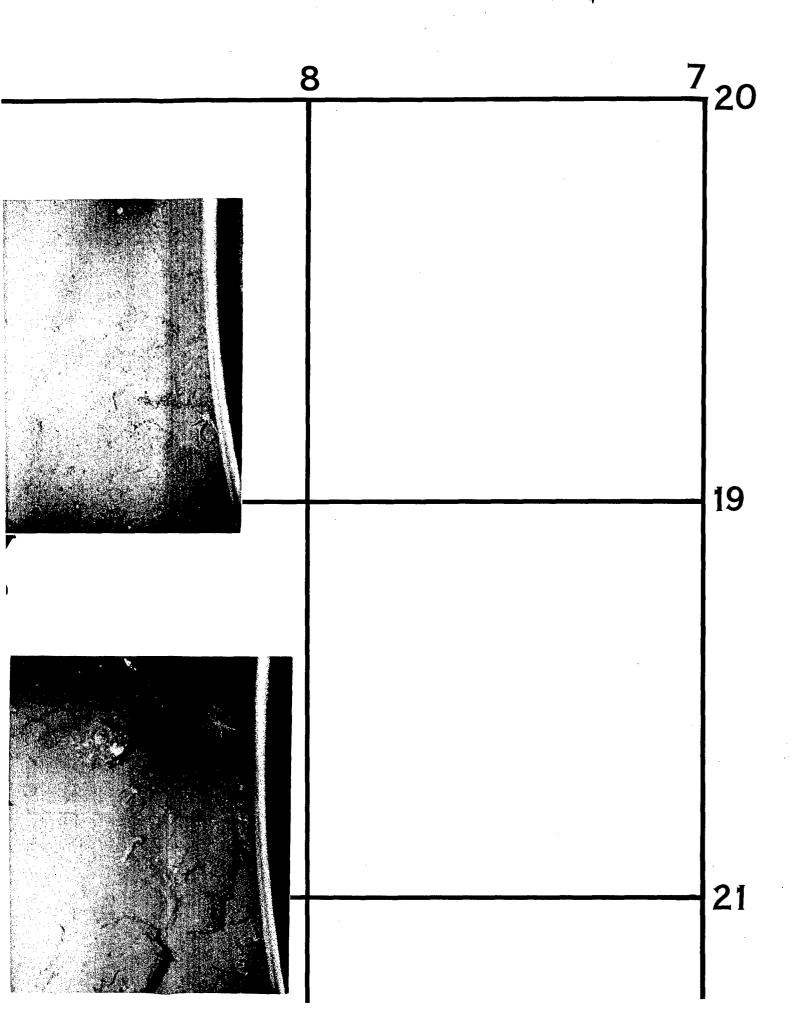


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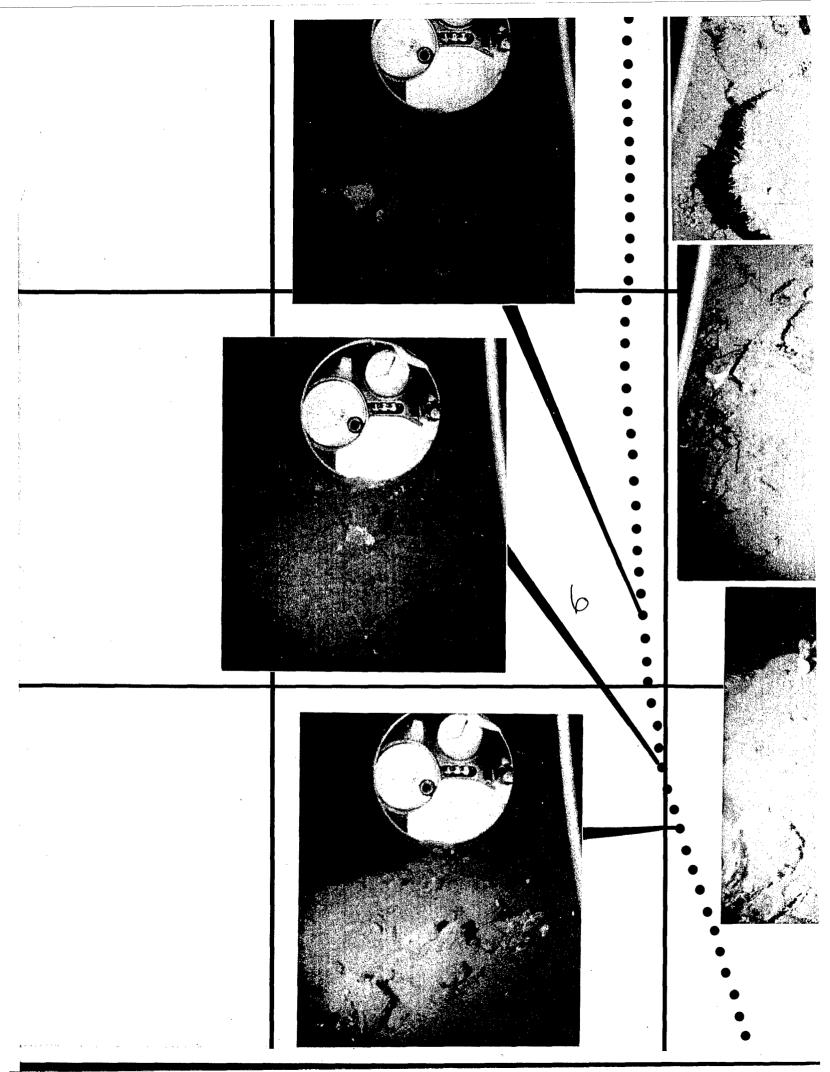


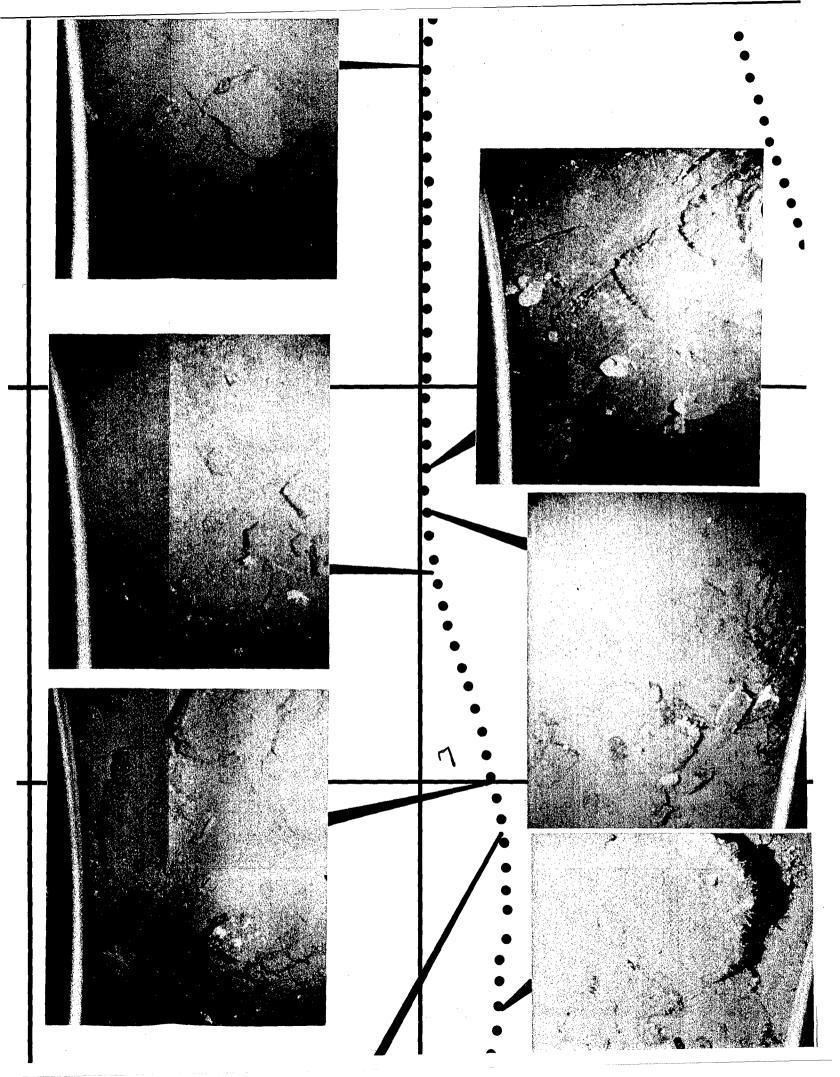


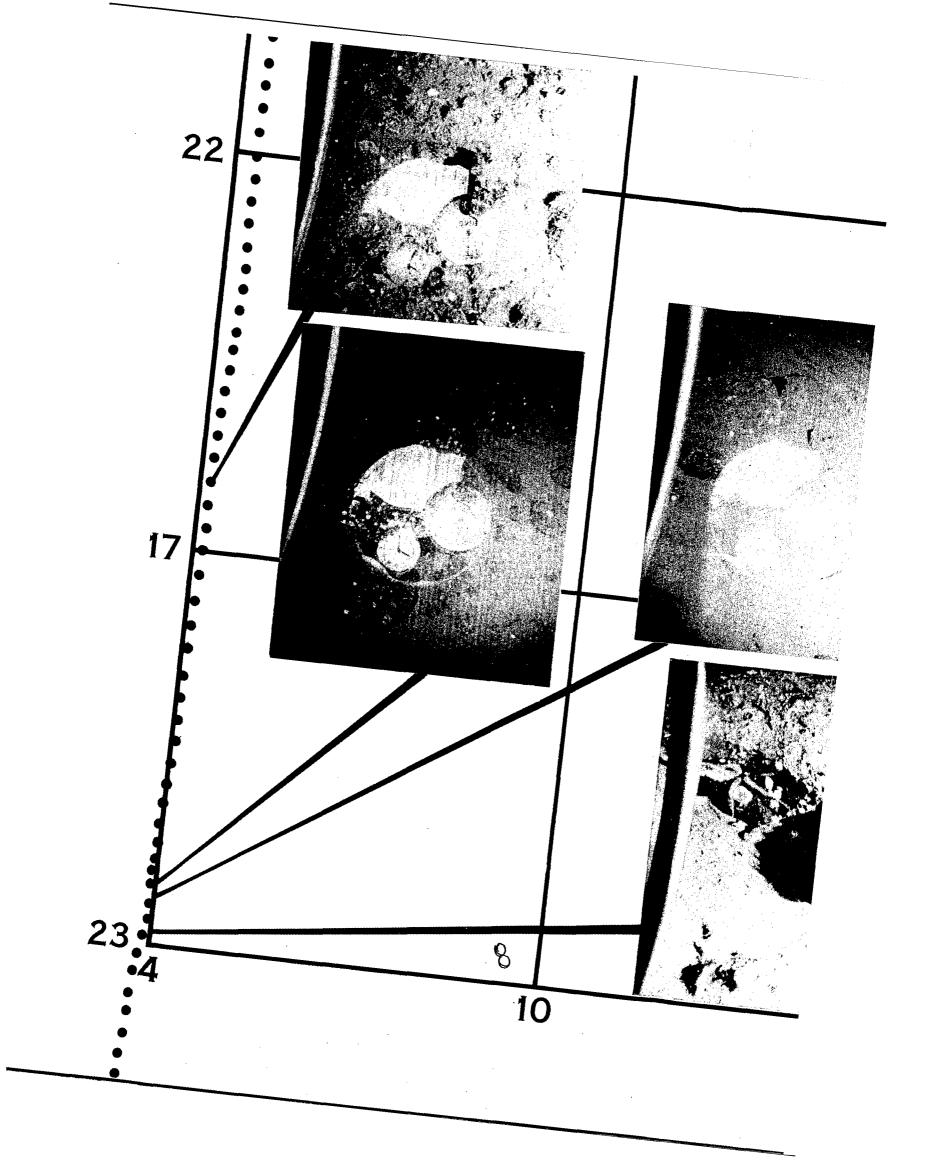




21	5
18	







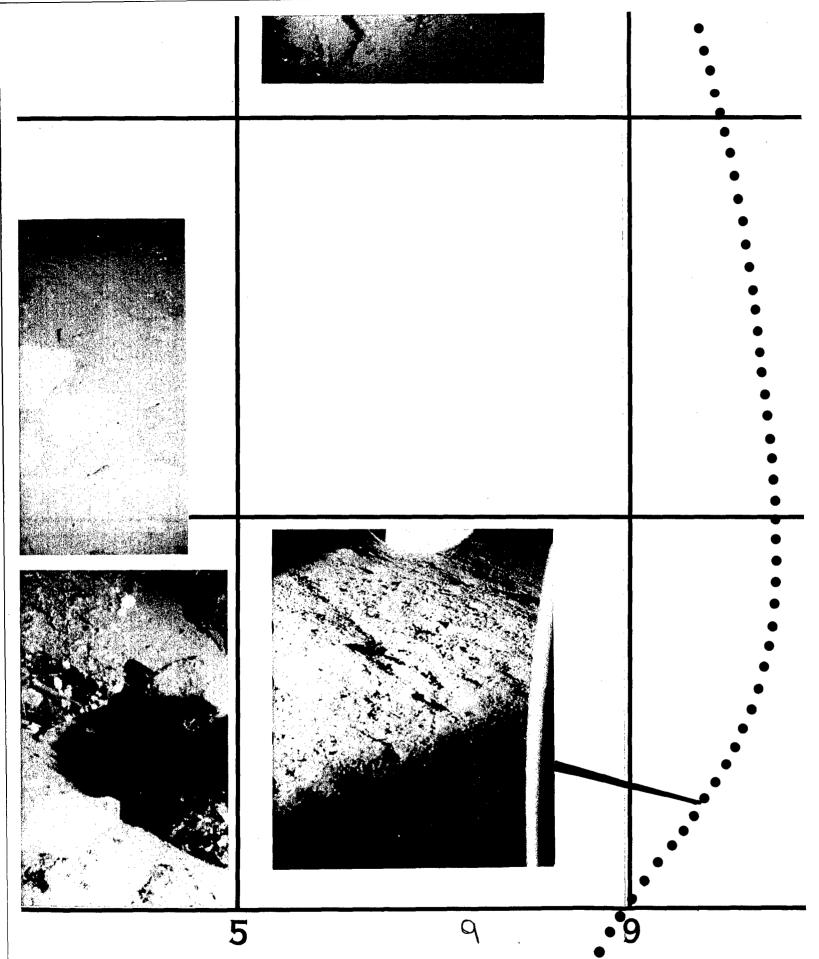
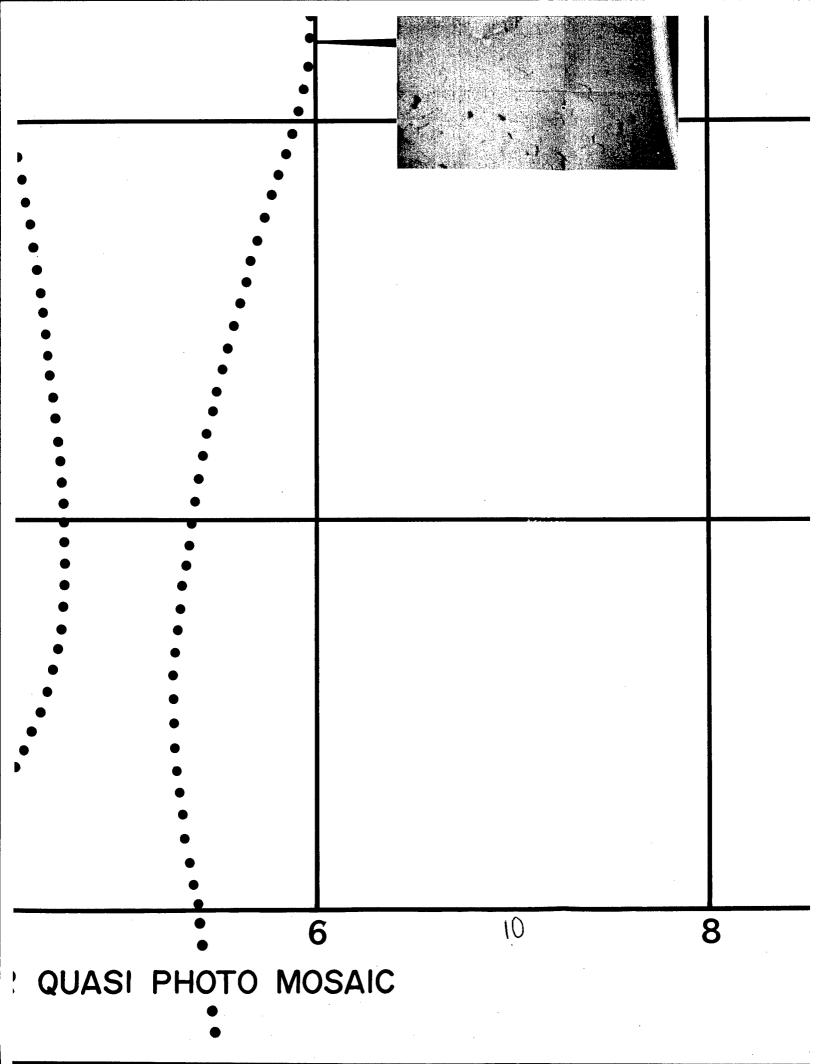
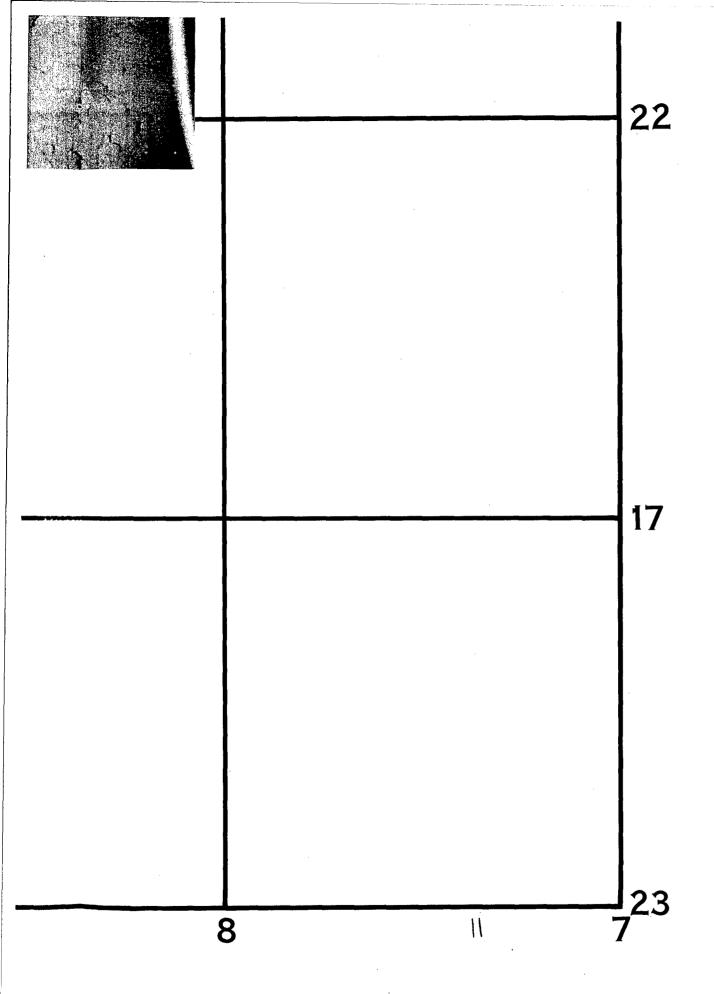
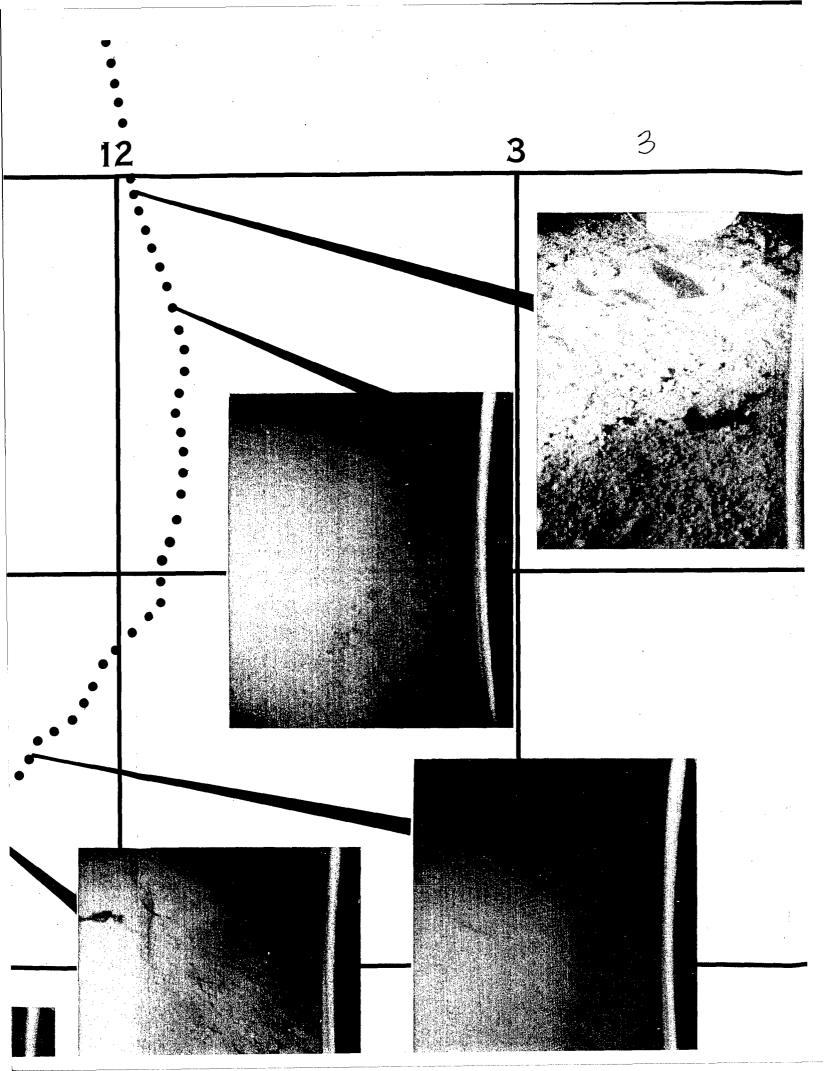
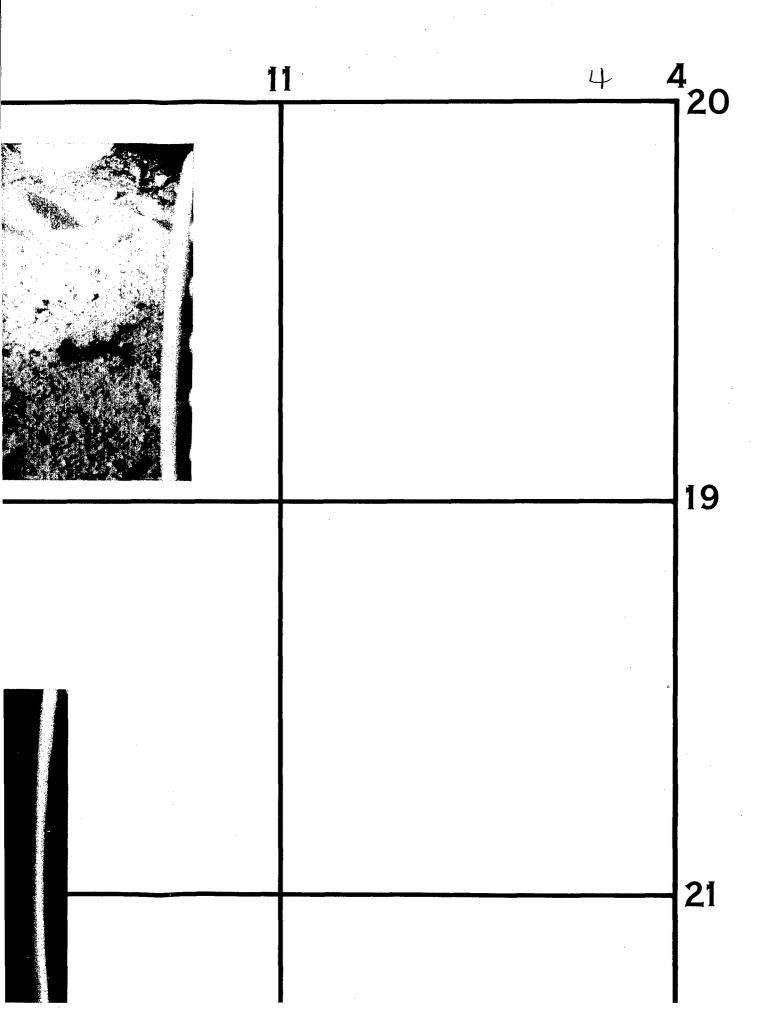


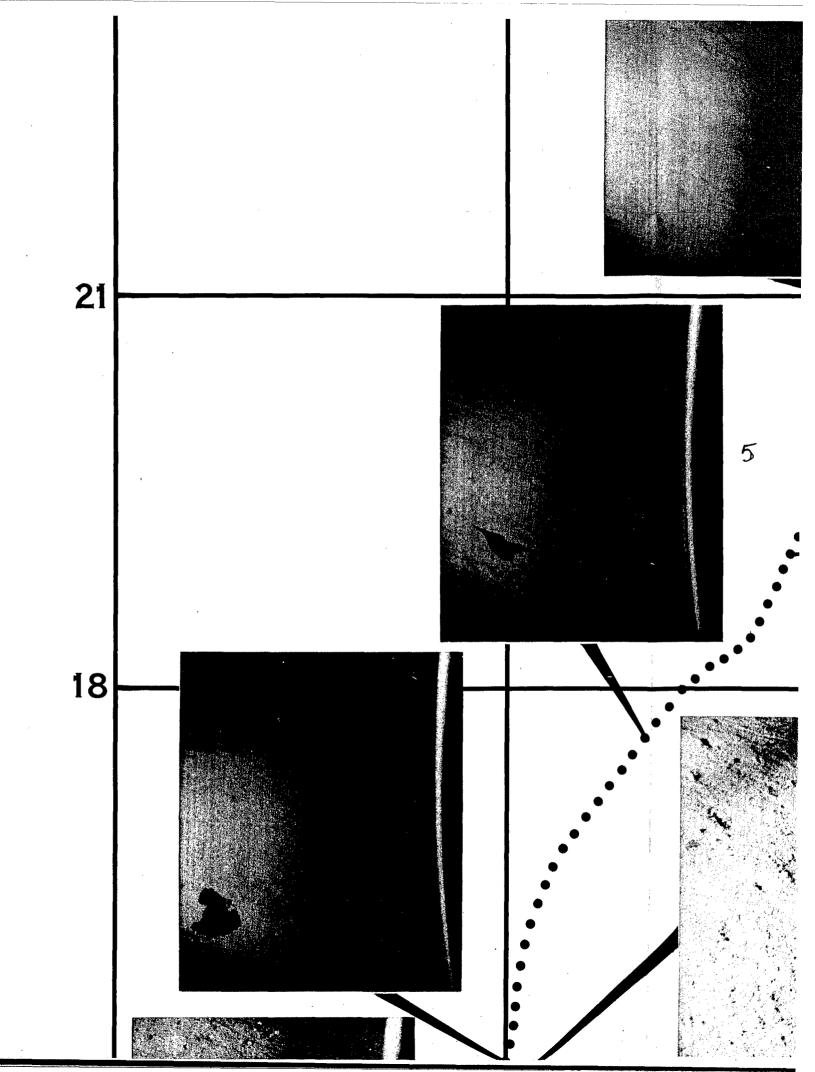
FIGURE 27 SEA LAB III SEA FLOOR QUA

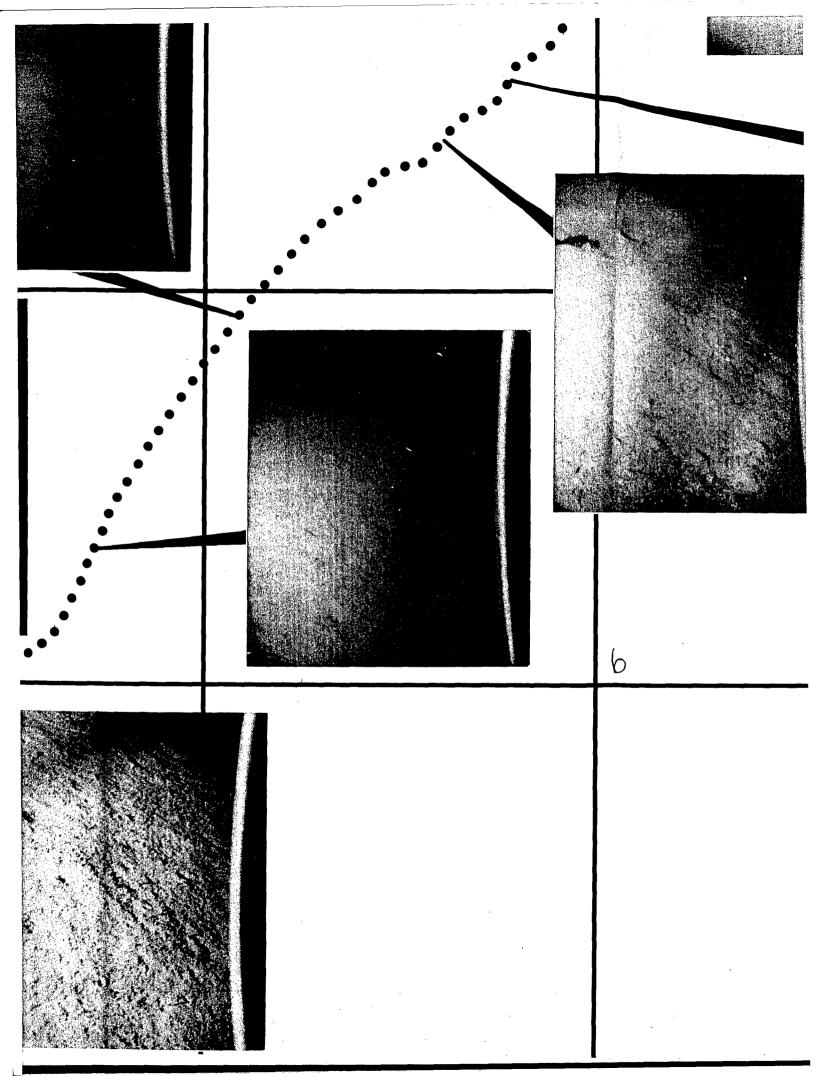


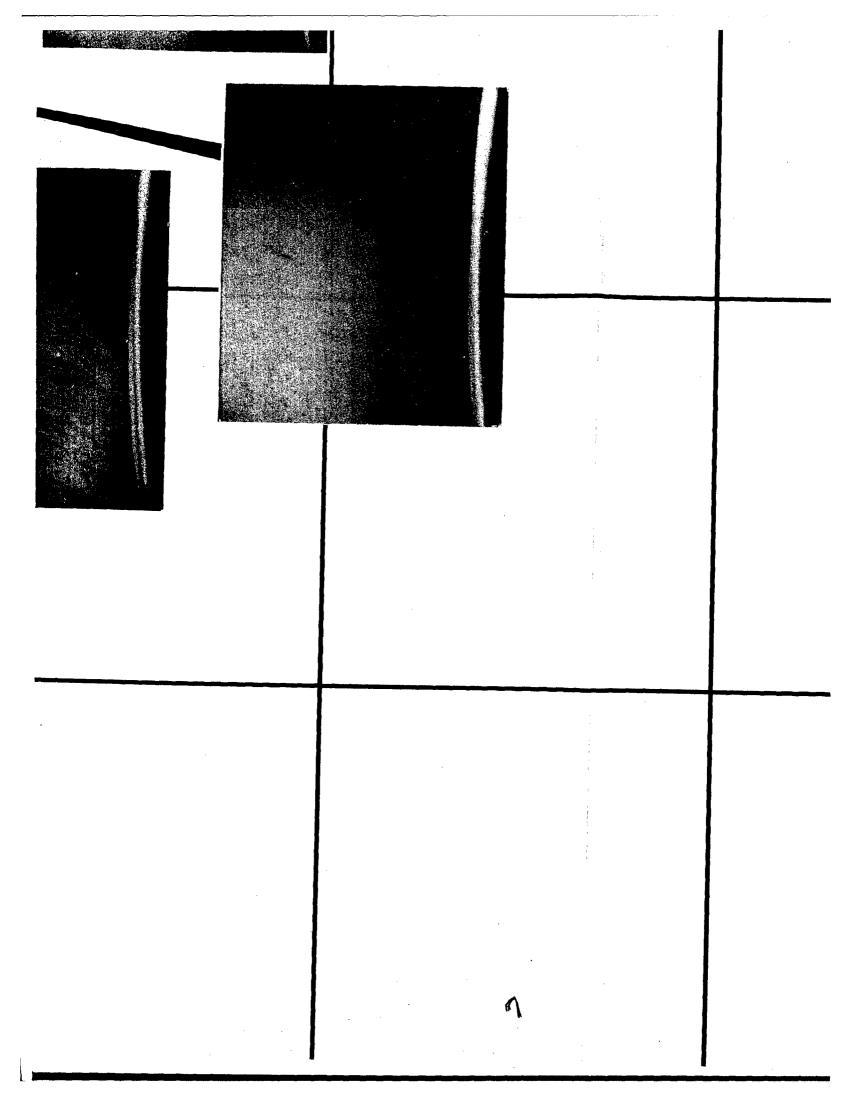


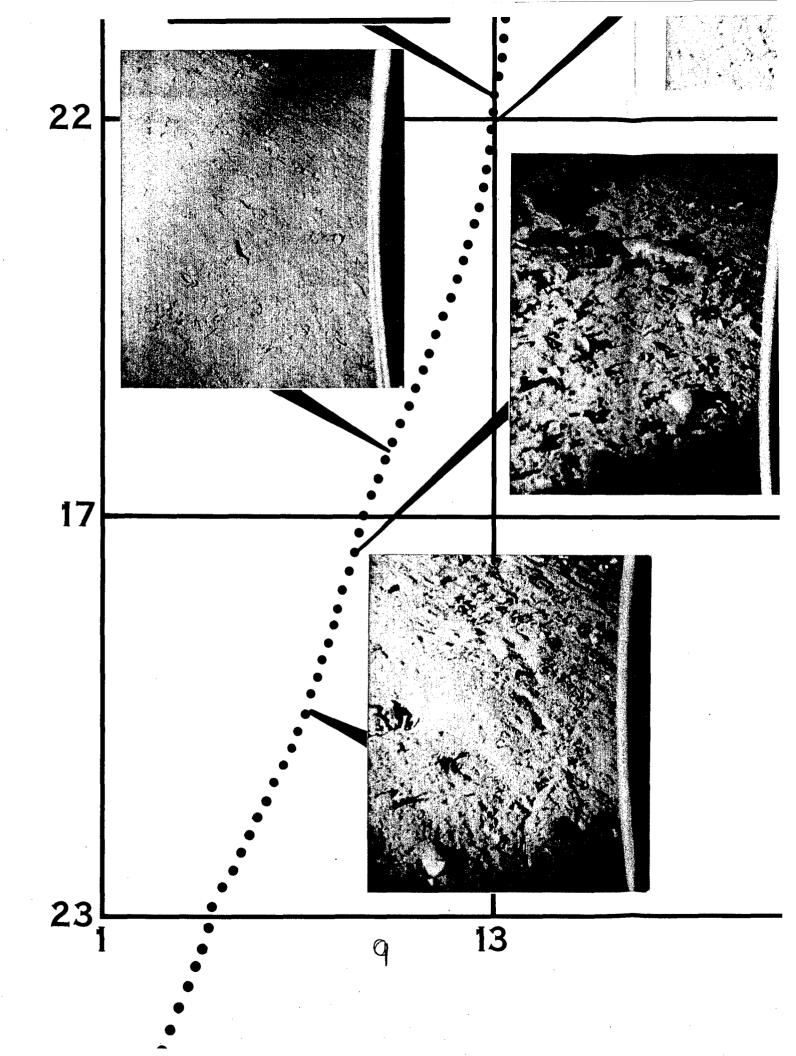












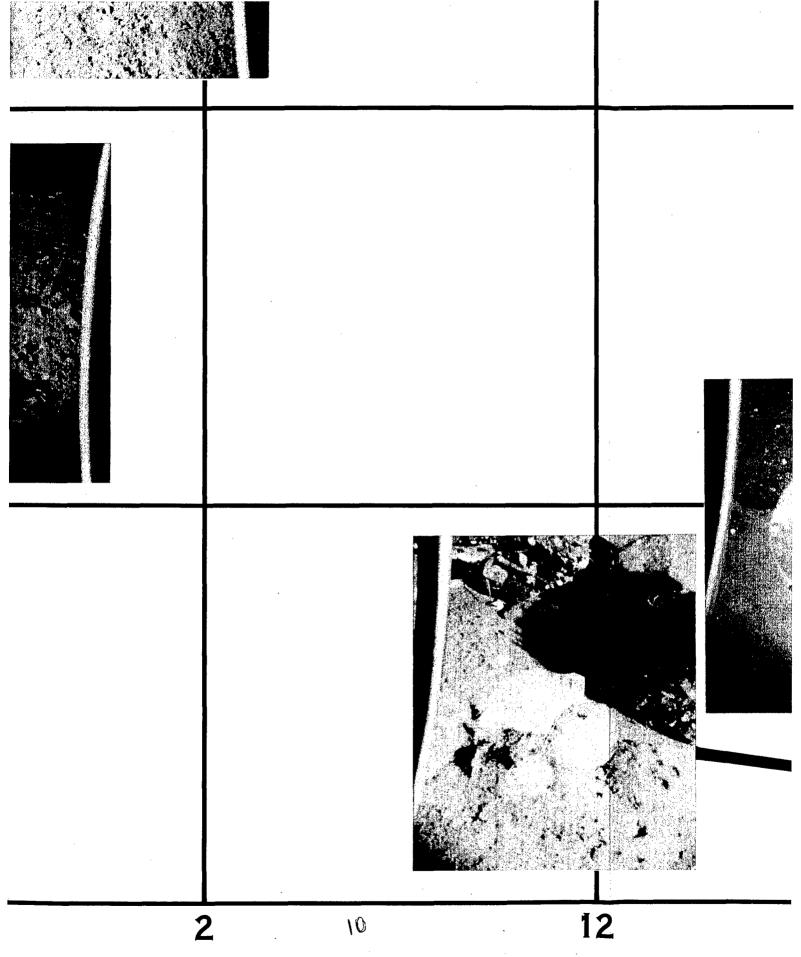
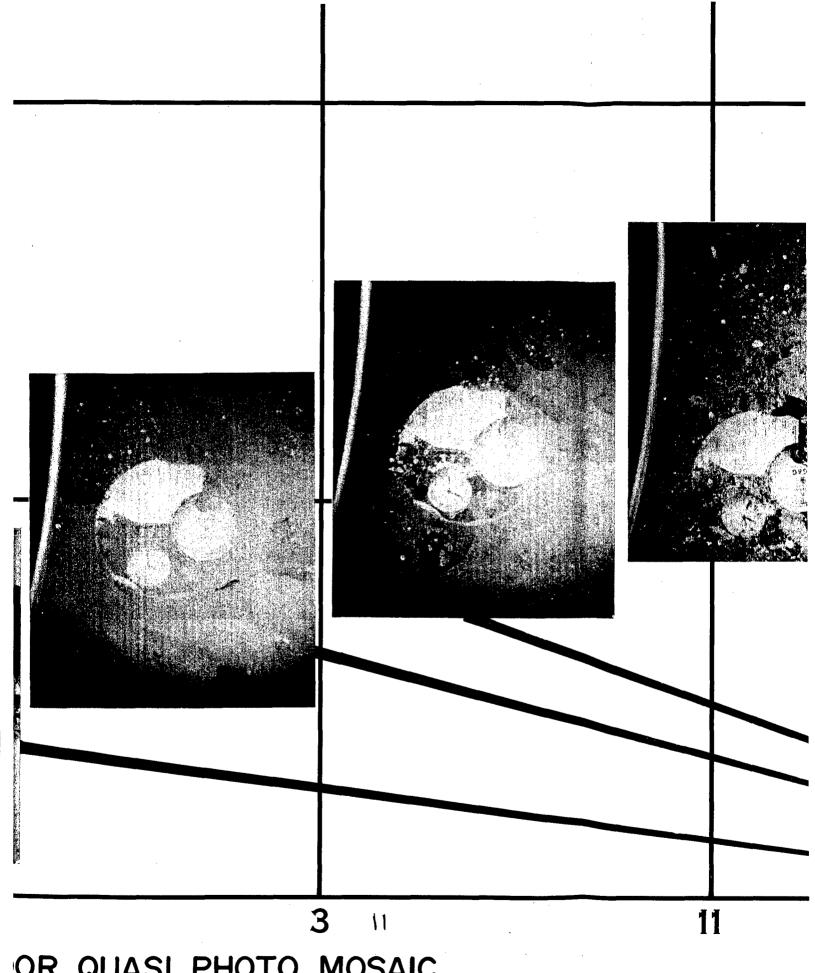


FIGURE 26 SEA LAB III SEA FLOOR QL



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